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THE TIMES

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45p

Major warns that defeat would sink Maastricht

John Major is gambling on the determination of both Labour and the Liberal Democrats to ratify the Maastricht treaty. A referendum may prove the key to uniting his own party

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major and Douglas Hurd raised the stakes over Maastricht last night by warning that defeat for the government over the social chapter would kill the treaty.

In a high-risk move intended to put pressure on Labour, and particularly the pro-European Liberal Democrats, they made plain they would not press on with ratification of the treaty if Parliament imposed the social chapter on them.

Their message was welcomed by the Conservative rebels, led by Lord Tebbit, who yesterday incited MPs to wreck the "foul abomination" of the treaty. But Labour was in no mood to back away as the Tories became embroiled in a fresh bout of internal warfare with Lord Tebbit even threatening to leave the

being adopted in Britain. Tory rebels assumed that the government's tactic was to confront the opposition parties with the possibility that their actions might wreck the treaty that both support. There were signs yesterday that some potential rebels believed they could win a referendum on the treaty in return for full co-operation on the bill. Some 73 per cent of the public favour a referendum, according to a Mori poll for *The Times*.

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, made clear yesterday that while his party would vote for the amendment, it did not want to jeopardise ratification of the treaty — and the possibility remains open that the Liberal Democrats could rescue the government at a later stage if amendment 27 is passed.

Nevertheless, ministers decided yesterday that the current danger had to be met with an aggressive response. Interviewed on BBC Radio 4's *The World At One*, Mr Hurd said: "There is no question of our ratifying a treaty other than the one we negotiated. We are not going to allow the socialists at Westminster to thrust on us something that the prime minister avoided at Maastricht."

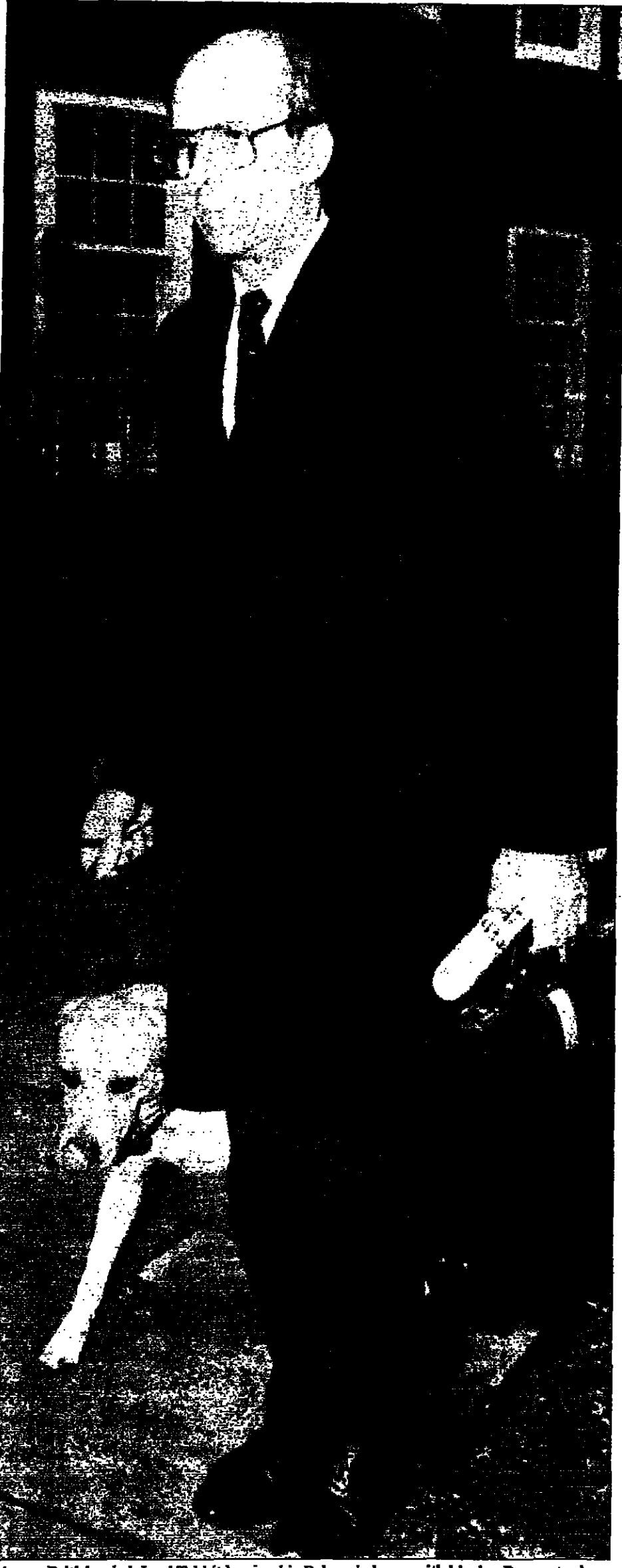
The message from Downing Street later was even tougher. Officials said that if Britain did not ratify, "the whole thing falls apart" because the treaty had to be ratified in all member states. It was not the case that there could be a simple renegotiation of the treaty. "If you open up this can of worms everything comes out," Officials added, however, that the prime minister was confident he would win the vote.

In his radio interview, Mr Hurd described the Labour amendment as bait for Conservatives opposed to the treaty. "I think they will see the bait and not fall into the trap. I don't think we are going to lose this vote. I don't think there are going to be many, if any, who are going to fall for this Labour device."

Labour continued to insist that if its amendment were passed, other EC countries would be happy to see the social chapter accommodated in Britain. Jack Cunningham, shadow foreign secretary, told a private meeting of the Parliamentary Labour Party: "We have made it abundantly clear that our main task in debating the Maastricht bill was to achieve the inclusion of the social chapter."

Mr Ashdown said that his party wanted to improve the treaty by adding the benefits of the social chapter.

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A very British rebel: Lord Tebbit leaving his Belgraveia home with his dog Ben yesterday

Tebbit's ferocity alarms even the Euro-rebels

By NICHOLAS WOOD AND SHEILA GUNN

LORD Tebbit was under fire from both wings of his party last night after a clarion call for Conservative MPs to kill the "foul abomination" of the Maastricht treaty by supporting a Labour amendment on the social chapter.

Leading Euro-sceptics accused the former Tory party chairman of overplaying his hand and running the risk of frightening potential rebels into the clutches of the whips.

The attacks on Lord Tebbit were prompted by his speech to journalists at a Westminster lunch where he disputed the government line that a vote for the amendment would amount to support for the social contract. "Frankly,

"That foul abomination, that running sore of Britain's politics, John Major's political tar baby, John Smith's self-imposed political ball and chain, the crumbling altar of the xenophobic paranoiac world of M Delors"

— Lord Tebbit on the Maastricht treaty

as any amendment would wreck the treaty I would cheerfully vote for one saying that the moon was made of blue cheese if it had a chance of being carried," he said.

"The social chapter is not within the main text of the treaty, Britain, therefore, does not have an opt-out clause. There is, however, a protocol, to which we agreed, allowing the other 11 to use the institutions of the Community to enforce the chapter on each other. That clearly increases to near certainty that our failure to implement its provisions will sooner or later be ruled illegal by the [European] Court of Justice."

The amendment, which would remove the protocol from the treaty, "would lessen the danger of having the charter forced on us. All Conservatives should support that amendment. By doing so, they would in no way be voting for the social charter."

Elsewhere, menacing signs of revolt against John Major came as Bill Walker, the MP for Tayside North, added his voice to those of James Cran and Sir Teddy Taylor in support of the amendment.

But Andrew Rowe, Tory MP for Mid Kent, said of Lord Tebbit that he was "like King Lear, wandering around in a thunderstorm and ranting at everything to come after him."

Clinton signals willingness to send US troops into Bosnia

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA, in a significant policy reversal, has signalled a willingness to deploy ground troops in Bosnia to police any eventual peace plan.

Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, was last night announcing a new American-led diplomatic initiative to resolve the Bosnian conflict, and Washington would be "willing to enforce whatever agreement might be reached," Dee Dee Myers, the White House spokeswoman, said.

Senior administration officials said no final decisions or commitments had been taken but the Clinton administration would probably be prepared to contribute to a multinational force provided a settlement was reached to which all the warring parties had agreed.

A peacekeeping operation might be mounted by Nato under UN auspices, and between 20,000 and 40,000 troops could be required. Reports last night suggested the Americans might contribute 15,000.

The new diplomatic initiative will finally put America firmly at the centre of efforts to resolve the Bosnian conflict which has so far claimed 20,000 lives and left hundreds of thousands homeless in 11 months of fighting.

Mr Christopher was expected to announce the appointment of a special envoy to negotiate with the warring parties and build on the present UN peace plan, developed by Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, which the EC has backed but the Americans consider unworkable and unenforceable. The plan divides Bosnia into ten semi-autonomous provinces. The

aim would be to eliminate Serbian territorial gains and make the map more acceptable to the Bosnian Muslims.

President Clinton repeatedly ruled out the deployment of ground forces during the presidential campaign, as had President Bush. General Colin Powell and other Pentagon chiefs convinced the parties would try to cheat on any settlement — have also resisted any move which could suck American soldiers into a Balkan "quagmire". Gener-

More Britons feared dead

Ten British mercenaries may have been killed in Bosnia in recent days. The bodies of two Britons who had been training Bosnian forces were found near the town of Turbe but United Nations workers believe that eight more may have died.

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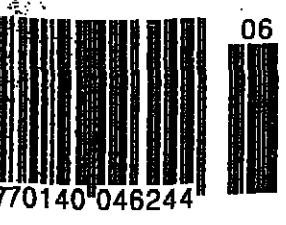
al Powell said yesterday he may step down before his term officially ends this autumn, but denied the decision was over policy disagreements with the Clinton administration.

The change of policy seemed bound to spark controversy in America, but Mr Clinton — without referring directly to the deployment of ground troops — said he believed the public "want us to do more... they will support this policy."

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IRA terrorist jailed for 30 years

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

JAMES Canning, an IRA terrorist at the heart of a 10-month pre-election bombing campaign in London, was sent to prison for 30 years at the Old Bailey yesterday.

His 60-year-old lover, Ethel Lamb, who was beguiled into letting him use her suburban bungalow as a bomb factory, was sentenced to three years and left the dock in tears.

Canning, 37, an IRA quartermaster, was convicted of conspiring to cause explosions and possessing 88lb of Semtex

explosive, a loaded revolver and six Kalashnikov AKM-47 assault rifles. "Wee Jimmy" Canning, an important figure in the IRA network, is believed to have been in deep cover in London for some time before launching his bombing campaign. He was caught by long-term intelligence and videotaped observation.

Mr Justice Leonard told him: "You are a dangerous man committed to achieving the ends of a terrorist organisation by violent means." The jury cleared Canning of planting a bomb in a Soho alleyway last April 6, three days before the general election.

Lamb, a former greengrocer, was convicted of giving money and making property available to him, knowing they could be used for terrorism. She was also convicted of possessing the rifles but was found not guilty of conspiracy to cause explosions and possessing Semtex.

Odd couple, page 3

Policewomen 'sexually assaulted by colleagues'

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

HUNDREDS of women police constables may have suffered sexual assault from male colleagues, according to the findings of a confidential report now being studied by the Home Office. The assaults include rape, attempted rape and "groping".

According to *Police Review* magazine today, the research suggests that up to 6 per cent of 15,000 police women in England and Wales have been

seriously assaulted. The conclusions are based on three areas of research, including a recent survey sent out to 1,800 female officers in six forces, and have prompted argument in a controversial area.

In the past month, as news of the report circulated within the police service, all chief constables issued a public warning to officers against sexual harassment and said

Continued on page 2, col 5

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IS THEIR DREAM.
THEIR DREAM IS
OUR NIGHTMARE.

EDDY SHAH

THE LUCY GHOSTS

OUT NOW IN CORGI PAPERBACK

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VELLS



Toxic fruit: from Genesis to exodus

In the Beginning, there was Nicholas Soames, and the MP (C) for Crawley was without form, and void. And the Chief Whip recommended that he be made food minister, and Soames was given dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air and battery farms, and over the cattle, and over all the earth and large sections of the ministry of agriculture, and over every creeping thing on the Tory backbenches that took an interest in food.

And it was all going pretty well. Unfortunately, however, Mr Soames had reckoned without Gavin Strang, Labour's principal agriculture spokesman, as the Good Book says of the Serpent, "more subtle than any beast of the field", but his role in yesterday's parliamentary drama differs sharply from *Genesis*. Strang had come to the Commons not to commend the apple, but to denounce it.

Strang warned MPs about toxicity in apple juice. He took Soames to task for failing to alert the nation earlier. The problem was a substance called patulin, present in certain apples.

"Patulin," cried Soames, "is a naturally occurring toxicant which has been with us since the Creation. It is produced by moulds."

"Good heavens!" said John Carlisle (C, Luton N). Of course. Deadly Nightshade is also naturally occurring. As Strang put it, "the fact that a substance occurs in nature does not mean it is not dangerous."

"Like socialism," shouted Tony Wags.

"It is to top independent scientists that the government looks for toxicological advice," Soames protested. Fruit was "a natural product which has been with us since Adam ate the apple and thus made a career decision."

MPs scratched their heads. Which career decision had Adam made by eating the apple? Soames seemed to be suggesting

that upon leaving the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve had gone straight into the cider industry, perhaps in partnership with the Serpent.

Speaking for the Serpent, a number of Tory backbenchers with constituency commercial interests to defend arose and said that they drank apple juice themselves, and behold it was very good. Glamorous Emma Nicholson (Devon W & T, Torridge) managed a prime-time plug in husky contralto tones, for Inch's Cider. A few pints of this, she cooed to Soames, would produce "a wonderful result". The thought of Miss Nicholson in fig leaves was as pleasant as that of Mr Soames without them was alarming.

Jacques Arnold (C, Gravesend) advised Soames to "ignore the chattering classes".

Glenda Jackson (Lab, Hampstead), who represents them, rose. We remember her without fig leaves in *The Music Lovers*. She wasn't touching the apple. Pregnant women in Hampstead had drunk of its juice, she said, and behold they were sore afraid. Mr Soames said that they weren't to worry.

You would have to drink 140 litres of apple juice a day, said that doughty defender of the orchards of Kent, Andrew Rowe, to be in danger. Rowe had addressed the wrong man; the enormous and *bon-vivant* Soames is the one minister whom we can imagine achieving this level of consumption.

Shouts of "What about bananas?" and "Let's have a windfall tax!" ringing in my ears. I left the Gallery. Teresa Gorman (C, Billericay), in cerise with five medallions, was advertising herself as proof that drinking apple juice produced no harmful effects. MPs rushed to the Chamber to destroy every carton they possessed.

Iraq refuses to release Britons

By NICHOLAS WATT AND PAUL WILKINSON

IRAQ last night rejected a plea to release the two British men held in Baghdad for illegally entering the country. Tariq Aziz, Iraq's deputy prime minister, turned down an offer from the Red Cross of further humanitarian assistance if Michael Wainwright and Paul Ride were set free.

Michael Whitlam, director-general of the British Red Cross, said last night that during an 80-minute meeting Mr Aziz had reiterated his demand that Britain would first have to release millions of pounds of Iraqi assets frozen during the Gulf war. "He was in no way prepared even to talk about a deal over the two men," Mr Whitlam said.

Mr Aziz said last week that Baghdad would be sympathetic towards the jailed men if London agreed to release the assets to buy food and medicine. The Foreign Office said last night that Iraq's stance was "deeply disappointing and not in Iraq's best interests".

Mr Ride and Mr Wainwright were imprisoned last year for seven and ten years respectively. Mr Ride, 33, from Wallingford, east London, who was working as a chef in Kuwait, was arrested in August after he claims Iraqi soldiers lured him over the border.

Mr Wainwright, 42, from Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire, was arrested in May after crossing from Turkey into the Kurdish-controlled area of northern Iraq. He said Iraqi guards let him in.

Earlier yesterday relatives of the prisoners made their second visit to Baghdad's Abu Ghraib prison. Before the visit Heather Horne, Mr Wainwright's sister, described their reunion on Tuesday. "It was very emotional. We were just glad to see him. We were just over the moon." They had talked all afternoon. She said her brother was well-fed, in good health and itching to return home.

Because of an error in copy preparation, Napoleon III was incorrectly printed as Napoleon II in Woodrow Wyatt's article on February 9.

Prince goes native for TV cartoon

THE Prince of Wales yesterday recorded voice-overs in Welsh and Gaelic for an animated television film based on his children's book, *The Old Man of Lochnagar*. The £700,000 project, to be called *The Legend of Lochnagar*, will be broadcast at Easter.

The prince took lessons to improve his Welsh and to familiarise himself with the Gaelic script for versions of the film to be shown on S4C, BBC Wales and BBC Scotland. The English version for BBC1, will also be shown by ABC television in the United States. Profits will go to the Prince of Wales Charities Trust.

Arthur Sheriff, of S4C, said



Film fun: a still from *The Legend of Lochnagar*, which Prince Charles has been voicing over

Tories can still escape from the Maastricht trap

The government is in a weak tactical position over the Maastricht bill, but a strong strategic one. The forthcoming Commons vote on the social chapter (amendment 27) is obviously a trap for John Major and Douglas Hurd. In spite of Lord Tebbit's verbal pyrotechnics yesterday, however, it is not necessarily terminal. Even if the amendment is approved, the matter may not be resolved until after the Lords debates it in the summer.

The balance of forces is clear. There are undoubted majorities in the Commons for the principle of the bill and against the social chapter, which covers working conditions. The government's predicament is how to mobilise these majorities against a coalition in favour of amendment 27.

Each part of that coalition has different motives. Labour believes the British opt-out from the social chapter can be reversed without a lengthy

process of renegotiation and ratification throughout the European Community.

The Liberal Democrats have two aims: first, to preserve the treaty and ratify it; second, to stick to the social chapter. Ratifying the treaty is regarded by Paddy Ashdown as a primary

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

aim. He believes this will not be jeopardised by voting for amendment 27 at the committee stage. Although he says his party will always vote for the social chapter, that opens the way for a possibly different position at report stage or in the Lords if the treaty's future looks at risk.

The hard core of Tory Euro-sceptics, as well as most of the Ulster Unionists, are strongly opposed to the substance of the social chapter, but defend

Ulsterman accepts Dublin seat

By EDWARD GORMAN IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

GORDON Wilson, the man whose moving account of the death of his daughter Marie in the Enniskillen Remembrance day bombing five years ago touched the hearts of millions, has accepted an invitation to sit in the Irish Senate.

In an unusual gesture, Albert Reynolds, the prime minister, invited Mr Wilson, an Ulsterman, to accept his seat as one of the government's 11 nominees in the 60-seat upper chamber. A government spokesman said that the initiative came from Mr Reynolds. It reflected the admiration felt by many for the way Mr Wilson had coped with the tragedy and for his subsequent work for reconciliation and forgiveness. "He expressed himself so well and so cogently about the whole situation that I assume the Taoiseach figured he would have a major contribution to make in terms of north-south issues."

Mr Wilson received a personal tribute from the Queen in her 1987 Christmas address and wrote a book in memory of Marie, 20. He said yesterday that he would sit as an independent and had been assured he would not be required to take an oath or sworn statement.

WPCs face sexual assault in force

Continued from page 1

that tough action would be taken. They are to meet later this year to study the problem. The survey was drawn up by Dr Jennifer Brown, research manager for Hampshire police, and Dr Liz Campbell of Surrey University, and submitted to the Home Office for a research award in 1991 at the time of the Alison Halford controversy. The survey produced 600 answers from women who said they had been sexually assaulted and these were analysed by the researchers who reduced the number to 53. Six said assaults were repeated.

The magazine said the research meant that nationally over 800 women have been assaulted, but last night Baden Skitt, the chief constable of Hertfordshire and chairman of a chief constables' committee on equal opportunities, said although he had not seen all the report's details it did not give a national figure for assaults. He pointed out the survey said that 6 per cent of respondents in six forces said they had been subject to sexual assault at some time.

He said whatever the true figure, it was a matter of the greatest concern for chief constables and one which had been recognised for two years. All organisations with a majority of male workers had problems with sexual harass-

ment and the research had been carried out with the agreement of chief constables. Because of action over the last year there were signs that the situation has improved. Apart from the findings on assaults, the survey also found that 600 of the officers, questioned anonymously, have or would be prepared to use grievance procedures. But the research did not cover what action any of the complainants actually took or shows the results of complaints. It also showed that very few women officers, who have used the procedures which include counselling and disciplinary action against offenders, were satisfied at the way their allegations were handled.

When police women were questioned about sexual harassment, their replies showed the public could also be at fault. The survey showed 47 per cent of harassment came from police men, 35 per cent from the public and the remaining 18 per cent from civilian workers within the police service.

Commenting on the issue, one female officer said yesterday: "People may ask 'if it is such a problem why does it not come to light?' but it is like child abuse. It is between two people and it is not done in public." Young women officers might fear for their careers, she said.

Labour attacks government for failing to make test results public

Apple juice 'even safe enough for babies'

By NIGEL HAWKES
MICHAEL HORNSEY AND
JEREMY LAURANCE

SUPERMARKETS moved to allay consumer fears about the safety of apple juice yesterday as the government was attacked for failing to make public the results of tests conducted a year ago. The tests showed some samples to have high levels of a potentially carcinogenic toxin.

Answering an emergency question in the Commons, Nicholas Soames, the food minister, defended the decision not to remove any samples from shop shelves. He said the "best scientific advice in the land" was that the levels of patulin, a naturally occurring mould, did not pose "an immediate hazard to health". No good purpose would have been served "by creating quite unnecessary public alarm and confusion".

Gavin Strang, the shadow agriculture minister, told Mr Soames: "You have not justified the government's failure to act last year." Earlier Mr Strang had called on John Gummer, the agriculture minister, who was in Brussels on EC business, to resign. Mr Soames accused Mr Strang of "idiotic scaremongering".

Mr Soames said he could give an absolute assurance of the safety of apple juice for all consumers, including newborn babies. He said the results of the tests had been referred to the independent committee on toxicity.

Consumer groups accused the government of a cover-up. Derek Prentice, campaigns director of the Consumers' Association, said: "The first thing Mr Gummer did when the high levels of patulin were discovered was to tell the producers. This shows yet again that the agriculture ministry cannot represent the interests of both food manufacturers and consumers."

The tests were carried out in March last year. Mr Gummer alerted consumer groups for the first time on Wednesday last week, apparently after he had learnt that the story might be about to break in the press. Howard Dentner, the agriculture ministry's chief scientist, confirmed that the tests had shown levels of patulin up to eight times the recommend-



Apple source: Dr Andrew Lea, who carried out tests for the agriculture ministry last March, with samples of apple juice in his Reading laboratory

ed limit. "No one could defend levels as high as that but the industry is working to bring them down and I would be very surprised if tests this spring will find any samples above the limit," he said.

Patulin is made by the action of penicillin-like moulds that grow on many fruit, including apples, peaches, cherries, pears, grapes and apricots. People assume that "natural" food is poisoned only by what farmers and manufacturers pour into it. But plants synthesise a range of toxins as a defence against bacteria, fungi and insects. Naturally occurring carcinogens have been identified in black pepper, mushrooms, celery, parsnips, potatoes, figs, broad beans, mustard, parsley and honey.

Patulin forms on apples stored after the autumn harvest. "Fruit and vegetables are alive," Dr Mike Morgan, head of the biochemistry de-

partment at the Institute of Food Research at Norwich, said. The amount of patulin produced depends on the quantity of mould on the fruit, with damaged or bruised apples especially vulnerable. Amounts vary each season.

Keith Rogers, of the Apple and Pear Research Council, said that with some varieties of apple the badly damaged fruit could be identified by eye but other varieties showed no external evidence. Fruit juice and cider are made from apples too small or misshapen for sale as whole fruit, but Mr Rogers said cider was not at risk because fermentation destroyed the patulin.

The Committee on Toxicity, Mutagenicity and Carcinogenicity, which advises the Department of Health, said in a report published in October last year that two trials of oral administration in rats and one in mice had failed to produce cancers. A report by the World

Health Organisation came to the same conclusion.

The UK committee, chaired by Dr Richard Carter of the Institute of Cancer Research, also cited evidence showing that patulin produced chromosome breaks in hamster cells in test-tube experiments, and similar damage in the bone marrow cells of live hamsters. The committee concluded that patulin was a mutagen — able to damage cells — but that no adequate carcinogenicity data was available.

Andrew Lea, of Reading Scientific Services, who carried out the tests for the agriculture ministry last March, disclosed high levels of patulin in five out of 32 samples of apple juice, says: "Many carcinogens are mutagens but the reverse is not necessarily the case."

Thomas Shuttard, page 13
Leading article, page 17

NEWS IN BRIEF

Ferry chiefs may be charged over deaths

The operators of an Irish Sea ferry on which two children died after inhaling toxic sewage fumes may be prosecuted, the Irish government said. David Andrews, minister for the marine, said an official report into the deaths last August of Catherine Tomlins, 15, and her brother James, 12, of Glounthaune, co. Cork, would be sent to the chief state solicitor with a view to possible prosecutions.

The report, published in Dublin yesterday, found that the children died after inhaling hydrogen sulphide gas. Its author, Seamus McLoughlin, the deputy chief surveyor at the Department of the Marine, said the deaths had been "an accident waiting to happen" caused by a failure to maintain the ship's sewage system in a suitable condition for operation at sea.

Women fight army

A ruling yesterday by an industrial tribunal in London paved the way for some 5,000 women to launch compensation claims totalling £50 million against the defence ministry over their discharge from the armed forces for pregnancy. The tribunal is to hear a group of test cases in which the women claim the Queen's Regulations breached equality laws. It also ordered the ministry to disclose papers concerning pay and promotion prospects central to the women's claims.

Students pelt Lilley

Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, was pelted with eggs, flour and orange juice at the London School of Economics yesterday. He was having lunch with Conservative students before giving a short speech when about 12 people started to shout abuse at him. Phoebe Ashworth, chairman of the school's Conservative group, said: "A group of students came up to the table. There was eggs and flour flying everywhere and some of it hit Mr Lilley." The LSE said that the hecklers had not yet been identified.

Chip shop strip ordeal

A waitress at Harry Ramsden's fish and chip shop at Guiseley, West Yorkshire, has been paid £15,000 compensation after being forced to strip to her underwear. Her ordeal occurred after the manager claimed that she had been seen slipping money into her pockets. No money was found on the woman, who is married and in her 30s. Solicitors from the Transport and General Workers Union won the out of court payment, made without any admission of liability, after claiming that she had been falsely imprisoned.

Top of the stops

The railway station at Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire, has been judged the country's best, despite having only two staff to run it. British Rail announced. The Thames and Chiltern line stop beat off the challenge of nearly 2,500 others to take top prize in BR's 1992 national awards for its "highest standards of environmental quality and service".

Cat's war medal for sale

Luna the cat, right, modelling the Dickin, the animal equivalent of the Victoria Cross, at Christie's in London. The medal, to be auctioned in May, was awarded to Simon, the black and white ship's cat on HMS *Amethyst*, who continued to catch rats in the food store after being injured by shrapnel when the ship came under fire during the Yangtze river incident in 1949. Simon, the only cat to be awarded the decoration, died in quarantine before it could be conferred. The medal, issued by the People's Dispensary for Sick Animals, is expected to make up to £3,000.

Minister's regret

The Northern Ireland minister Michael Mates spoke yesterday of his regret over remarks about the Bloody Sunday killings in Londonderry 21 years ago. His comment on Irish television a year ago, before he became a minister, that the army was unfairly blamed, outraged nationalist politicians and churchmen. Yesterday he said on radio: "I think there are very few people... who don't sometimes wish things had remained unsaid. Those remarks are high on the list of remarks I wish hadn't been said."

IRA man unscrupulously misused 'pathetic creature' whose quiet life he used as a disguise

Odd couple built terrorist nest in suburban bungalow

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE diminutive IRA activist and his unlikely lover were codenamed Snowstorm and Scarier Glow under Operation Camp, which exposed the terrorist nest he built at her suburban bungalow.

But to police keeping them under observation, the Roman Catholic building worker James Canning, 37, and his Protestant mistress Ethel Lamb, 23 years his senior, were less exotically known as the odd couple. Despite their age difference, they appeared an ordinary couple leading uneventful lives. Behind the scenes, the Glasgow-born Canning was using his lover's home to launch a devastating 10-month pre-election bombing campaign.

Canning was jailed for 30 years yesterday for conspiring to cause explosions and possessing 40 kilograms of Semtex explosive, a loaded revolver and six Kalashnikov AKM-47 assault rifles. Lamb was jailed for three years for making money and property available to Canning, knowing it could be used for terrorism, and for possessing rifles. Mr Justice Leonard said that they had "played an important and sustained part in the bombing campaign in this country".

Canning, unemployed, showed no emotion as he was sentenced, having instructed Helena Kennedy QC, his defence counsel, to offer no mitigation.

The judge said that, although Lamb had shown contrition, all right-thinking members of the public would think justice had not been done unless a custodial sentence were passed. Ann Currow QC, for Lamb, said that she had always been prepared to plead guilty to the charges on which she was convicted.

Miss Currow described Lamb as a "pathetic creature" abandoned by her previous

lover, who came within "the fatal orbit of Canning". After their arrest on April 13 last year, Lamb implicated Canning in a string of London bombings, including an attempted attack on the regimental band of the Blues and Royals at the Beck Theatre, in Hayes, west London, on June 27, 1991.

"Wee Jimmy" Canning took advantage of his mistress's loneliness and vulnerability to move into her pebble-dashed semi-detached bungalow in Northolt, west London, where he blended into the community. He kept a loaded .357 Smith and Wesson in his trouser waistband and an arsenal of AKM-47 assault rifles in a subterranean hide he had constructed beside a rabbit hutch in the back garden. Indoors he stored ammunition, booby-trap car bombs and more than 40kg of Semtex, much of it under the bed that he shared with Mrs Lamb.

The moustachioed Canning, who retained his Scots accent despite spending most of his childhood in Crossmaglen, co. Armagh, was familiar to neighbours as a DIY enthusiast, a golfer, a responsible partner who wheeled the trolley round the local supermarket, and a man who enjoyed nothing so much as a drink and a bet on the horses.

The couple first met at the Adam and Eve, a pub in Hayes, largely used by the local Irish community, in April 1991 at a singles club evening.

Lamb, born in Newcastle upon Tyne but brought up in Scotland, was a forlorn woman who had undergone a mastectomy for breast cancer. After marrying at 18 and having two children, a long relationship had recently ended. So lonely was she that she often preferred to spend the night in bed and breakfast

accommodation than to go home and to spend daylight hours chatting aimlessly to other women in local laundrettes.

At this time Lamb kept a diary recording her despair. She wrote: "What am I? I am old, I am fat, I have got nothing left."

It was then that she met Canning and fell for him. He decorated the bungalow and moved in within a month. By the time the couple were arrested on April 13, 1992, Mrs Lamb had only £10,000 left of her nest-egg, having showered with gifts the man she hoped to marry.

Canning looked on her as his haven and covetously misusing her devotion. Towards the end of their relationship they argued constantly. His occasional rips across the Irish Sea, from which he returned with four-figure sums to pay the living expenses of other IRA bombers, was the biggest bone of contention.

Canning fathered his fifth child by his wife in Crossmaglen while living with Lamb. On one occasion she flew over to Ireland to search for him in bandit country, locating her errant lover in a pub in Crossmaglen.

Shortly before their arrests she said she threatened to expose him and claimed he threatened to kill her. With the noise tightening around their relationship, Canning decided to play safe and transfer his arsenal and explosives in his red Ford Granada to two lock-up garages near by.

The move was video-taped by police secretly operating from a house they had rented on the other side of the street. Officers also filmed him last April 6 leaving the bungalow with a briefcase he had purchased in a car-boot sale.

Thirty-year sentence, page 1



Unlikely pair: a sketch of Canning and Lamb in court, top. Above left, the pub where their affair began and, right, their bungalow home

Hidden camera recorded the invisible terrorist

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

LONG-TERM terrorist intelligence and patient police surveillance caught Jimmy Canning. He epitomised the new breed of undercover operator dubbed "flywhites" because they have no criminal record linking them to terrorism.

Behind the genial man propping up the bar of his local stood a shadowy figure at the centre of a network of IRA units operating in Britain. Tipped off by telephone or an approach from a go-

between, Canning would take delivery of arms and explosives smuggled into Britain at secret rendezvous and salt the material away ready for use.

The weapon used to shoot Sir Peter Terry, the former governor of Gibraltar, in September 1990 was found in one of Canning's stores and he is suspected of working as the ordinance master for a group of five terrorists responsible for 90 per cent of attacks in 1990. The team, which included Nesson Quinlivan and Pearce McAuley, now free after es-

caping from Brixton prison, was linked to bombs at the Carlton Club and the murder of an army sergeant.

Canning, a married man with a family living in Crossmaglen, a border hamlet with a strong republican ethos, arrived on the mainland in 1989 or 1990. His appearance is thought to have been linked to a IRA decision to retrain. In December 1988 police stumbled on a bomb factory in Clapham, south London. This was followed in early 1989 by the arrest of Nicholas Mullin, identified as the quartermas-

ter for the factory, and it looked as though the IRA's new mainland campaign might founder.

New caches were delivered to supply a new active service unit. Again the police struck, arresting two men on a Welsh beach in December 1989 and seizing a haul of explosives. As Quinlivan and McAuley set about making up for the losses, Canning was somewhere in the background.

The arrest of the two and further police operations in the autumn of 1990 halted the IRA campaign until Feb-

ruary 1991. As new IRA men and women arrived Canning not only supplied their needs but may have taken part as well. According to Lamb, he was involved in a dozen bombings.

But Canning's cover was not as perfect as he hoped. As the general election drew to a close last year he was under surveillance aided by a hidden video camera overlooking his home.

A week after the election, concern that Canning might have spotted the observation forced the police to act. The IRA activist was arrested.

Rushdie hopes meeting with Major will send tougher message to Iran

BY MATTHEW D'ANCONA

FOUR years after Ayatollah Khomeini sentenced him to death, the author Salman Rushdie may soon meet John Major as a symbol of the government's shift towards more explicit support for him in view of the Iranian *fatwa*.

In an interview yesterday at a safe house in London, guarded by special branch officers, Mr Rushdie said the strong support given by Douglas Hogg, the foreign minister, in a speech in Geneva this week should pave the way to a public meeting with the prime minister. It is understood that negotiations for such a meeting are at an advanced stage.

"We always knew that the first stage would be to generate international concern and a really energetic British response," Mr Rushdie said.

"But, as a symbolic gesture, we need a meeting with the prime minister, however brief, on the record and with a photographer. That would send a message to the Iranians and hold the international alliance in my defence together."

In the past year Mr Rushdie and representatives of Article 19, the free speech pressure group, have toured the world to add diplomatic muscle to the human rights and literary campaign. "We've managed to meet governments at a higher and higher level, up to head of state. The way in which the Nordic countries came in was a very significant early breakthrough."

"The German actions were absolutely crucial. I think the threat of economic sanctions if anything happened to me

really rattled the Iranians," he said. Mr Rushdie seemed sprightly and upbeat for a man who has lived in nomadic captivity for four years.

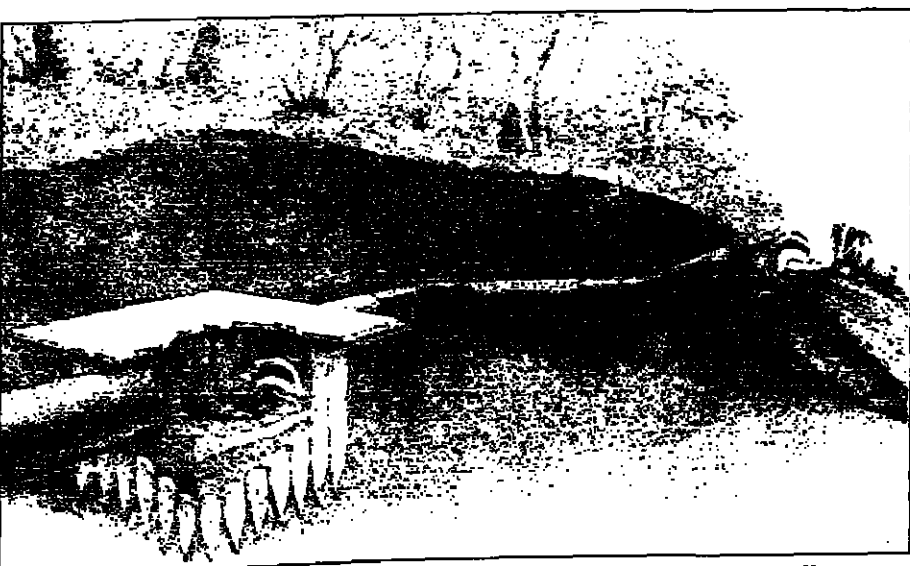
He believes President Rafsanjani's grip on Iran is weak. But the threat to his life from the *fatwa*, renewed last weekend, is no less great than it was on February 14, 1989. "There's a body of people who assess the threat on an almost weekly basis. In their view there has been no change."

Mr Rushdie must negotiate every move with his protectors. "Every time I venture out I discuss with them the nature of the risk. But, broadly speaking, it's a risk I have to take." He plans to publish a journal of his life on the run when it is safe to disclose the elaborate security methods used to pro-

tect him. Mr Rushdie renounces his brief "conversion" to Islam in 1990. "That was an attempt to get inside the religion and it was a mistake brought about by circumstances and a kind of despair. The truth is that what's happened in the last four years is an object lesson in the power of religion for evil."

Islam desperately needed to develop a secular face with Western assistance, he said. "If there is anywhere where secular Muslims have existed, it's Bosnia. But fundamentalists have been in there preaching fundamentalism before they hand out the Kalashnikovs. Ten years from now you're going to have a fundamentalist state at the frontier of Europe and people will say: 'Where did that come from?'"

Brock stays safe in dream home



Safe haven: an artist's drawing of a bunker protecting badgers from diggers

BY KATE ALDERSON

NEW DIY homes costing up to £1,500, some made of reinforced concrete, were unveiled yesterday to solve growing homelessness among badgers.

A new booklet *Bunkers and Dream Homes for Country Life* says that badgers' natural homes are being threatened by roads, housing or indus-

try. The magazine has helped to develop an artificial safe haven, with entrances disguised as drains and built-in airflows. It is, in short, Brock's "dream home".

Sandy Mitchell, assistant editor of *Country Life*, said: "The dream home, or naturalistic artificial set, is a 12-bedroom affair. Its dens are wood-panelled, its entrances and hallways so placed as to encourage a flow of air to

freshen the pelt." The booklet provides a DIY home-making guide and explains that an 11 or 12 chamber home requires tunnel piping, imported topsoil and roofing felt. Once the roofs have been fitted, a mechanical digger is needed to bury the set.

The booklet says that artificial badger homes are needed because recent statistics suggest that diggers attack 9,000 sets a year.

Drug case pair face Thai court

BY PAUL WILKINSON

TWO Britons are expected to appear in court in Thailand today accused of trying to smuggle heroin valued at £24,000 out of the country.

Sandra Gregory, 27, a Scot with an address in Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire, was allegedly caught at Bangkok airport with 150 grammes of the drug hidden on her body.

Robert Lock, 29, from Cambridge, was arrested with her but has denied all knowledge of smuggling drugs. They were both about to board a plane for Tokyo.

Miss Gregory's parents, who live in Aberdeen, are believed to be flying out.

Their daughter has apparently admitted carrying the heroin. In an emotional interview broadcast on BBC radio yesterday, she said: "They have got me. They have got photographs. I have admitted it."

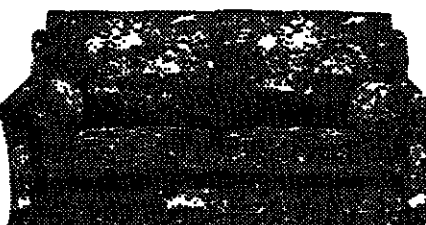
Thai police said she had agreed to carry the heroin because she was desperate to get home and needed the cash for her air fare.

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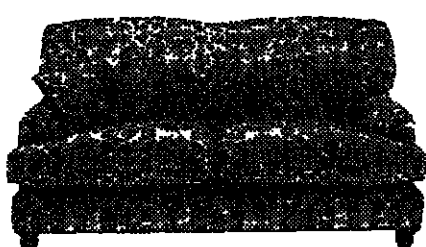
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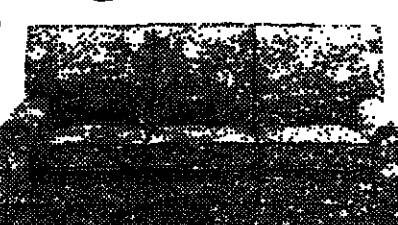
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4 HOME NEWS

Third of students over 16 fail to finish their course

By JOHN O'LEARY
AND BEN PRESTON

MORE than a third of young people who stay in education beyond 16 never complete their qualifications, the Audit Commission discloses today. Its report accuses schools and colleges of wasting £330 million a year.

In a joint report with Ofsted, the new school inspection agency, the commission describes the lack of success on some courses as alarming and criticises schools and colleges for giving poor advice to students. Andrew Foster, the controller of the commission, said that some pupils were deliberately misled in an effort to fill course places.

Those with poor GCSE results have the highest drop-out rates. On A-level courses, more than half those who enrolled with less than the equivalent of four grade Cs and three grade Ds at GCSE either failed or dropped out without taking the examination.

Uneconomically small teaching groups, as well as low success rates, are responsible for the high level of waste, the report says. About a third of the classes in a sample of 21 schools and colleges contained fewer than ten students.

Despite rising participation in education beyond the statutory leaving age, Britain still lags behind other industrialised nations. Almost half of all 17-year-olds were thought to

■ The Audit Commission's accusations of poor value for money in further education will add to John Patten's spending worries

be in education in 1991. The equivalent figures for Japan and the United States were over 80 per cent.

John Patten, the education secretary, has made the age group one of his top priorities. He is putting 6 per cent more money into further education colleges when they become independent from April. Today's report will put additional pressure on the department in the spending review now being conducted at the Treasury.

Public spending on full-time education for 16- to 19-year-olds costs about £2 billion a year. As many as 150,000 out of 400,000 sixth-form and

further education college students leave without the qualifications they hoped for.

Ofsted and the commission found little overall difference between schools and colleges, but vocational courses showed a higher drop-out rate than A-levels. An education department spokesman said that the new General National Vocational Qualifications should improve the situation and schools would soon be obliged to give pupils more information about alternative courses available locally.

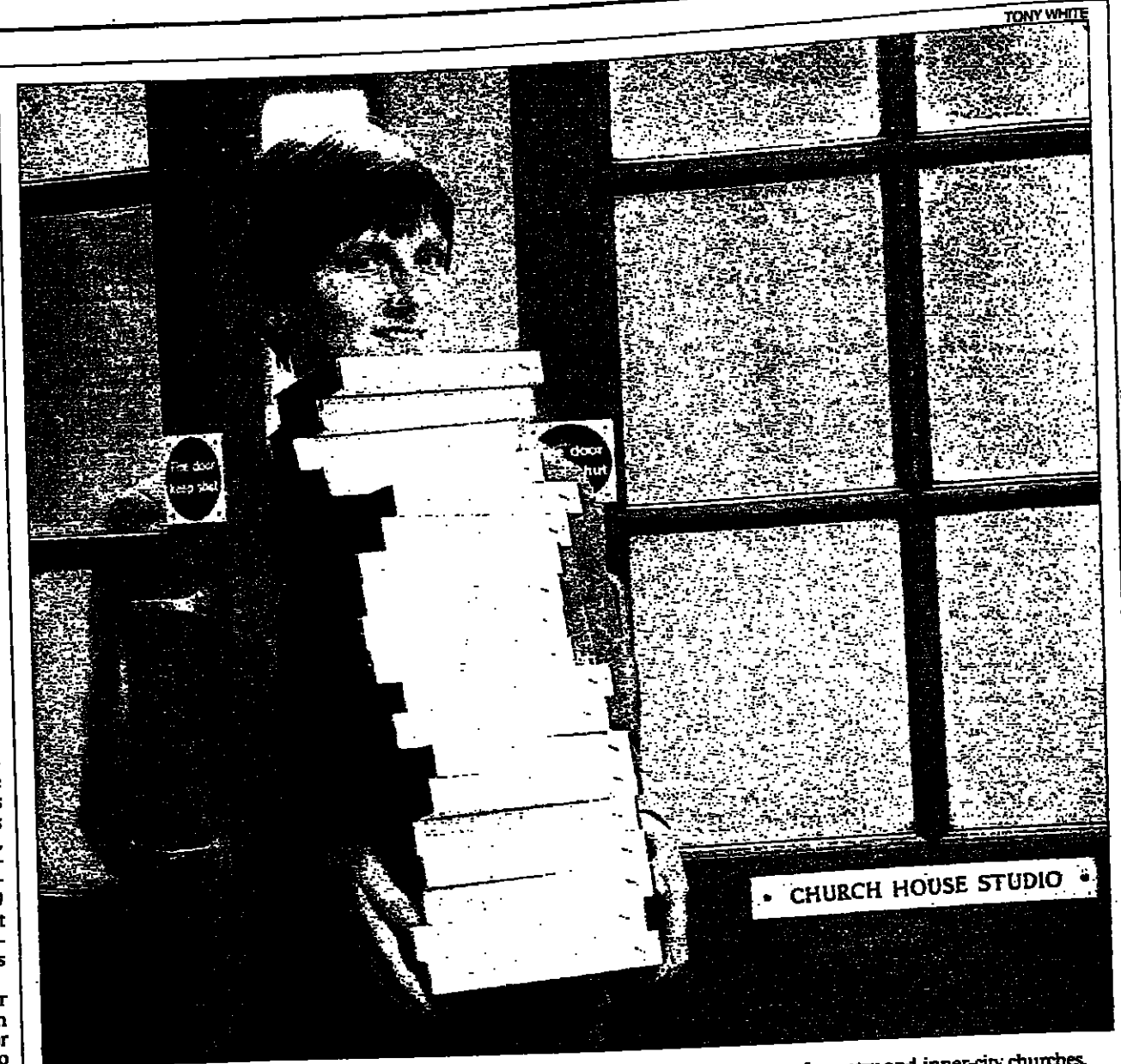
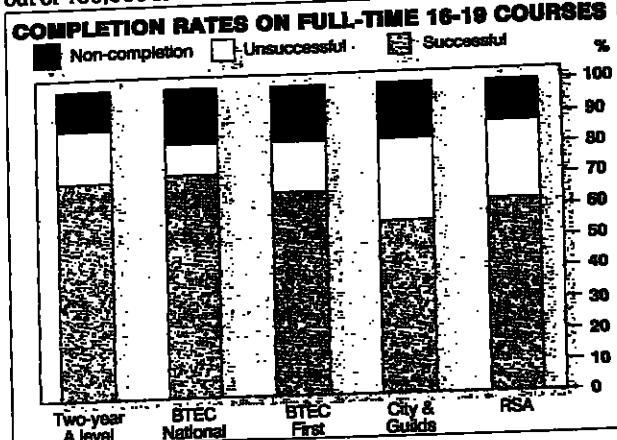
The gap between the best and worst schools is now so great that it can make the difference of one A-level grade

per student, the report says. The financial range uncovered in the survey is equally wide, with the annual cost of teaching each A-level student approaching £7,000 in one college, compared with less than £1,000 in the most economical institution.

Among the recommendations are that students should be counselled on their chances of success before they join courses, and that funding structures should not encourage schools to recruit indiscriminately. Mr Foster said: "It must be a matter of concern for students, teachers and our economic future that so many young adults do not complete or are unsuccessful in their courses. This represents a waste of both resources and talent."

Some institutions are already taking steps to reduce wastage rates. Tower Hamlets College, in east London, is using a computerised register, counsellors and student contracts to keep its 5,000 students on courses. With a 19 per cent wastage rate — almost half the national average — the college claims that its innovative methods pay off.

Steps to ensure value for money from a £14 million budget start when students for a place. All are interviewed so that the college can match applicants to a course suited to their ability, interests and qualifications. Those accepted sign a contract pledging to attend 85 per cent of lessons.



Mass marketing: the Church of England launched itself into the world of corporate marketing yesterday with a video promoting a spiritual way of life. The 28-minute tape, produced by Claire Walmsley (above) has "sound-bites"

from bishops and shots of country and inner-city churches. With almost no publicity, orders have already been received for 1,000 of the £10 videos. The £30,000 enterprise could produce a profit within weeks.

Lilley tries to head off fathers' fears on child support

By JILL SHERMAN AND MICHAEL DYNES

PETER Lilley, the social security secretary, has started a damage-limitation exercise over government plans to make absent fathers pay higher child maintenance. Fearing a big public backlash over the Child Support Agency, which starts work in April, Mr Lilley is holding meetings with Tory backbenchers to help them to defend the new system in their constituencies.

Families Need Fathers, a group that represents non-resident fathers, said that the new agency's terminology was "gratuitously offensive" as it implied that all divorced or separated fathers were wilfully absent from their children. "It is false and highly offensive to men who have been squeezed out of their children's lives," Bruce Lidington, the group's spokesman, said.

The new system, created under the Child Support Act 1991, is likely to mean many divorced and separated men paying up to double the child maintenance they do now. There will also be a much stronger effort to secure payment from fathers who make no financial contribution to the upbringing of their children.

Lawyers have already predicted that the act will mean a big increase in disputes over the amount of maintenance and fathers' access, because what they pay will be linked to

the amount of time they spend with their children.

Families Need Fathers, founded in 1974 to campaign for the interests of fathers denied access to their children by mothers, said that the agency's tariff formula for assessing how much fathers paid towards the upkeep of children failed to pay sufficient attention to the man's financial circumstances.

The formula "takes no account of the capital provision made in the past, or the community charge and travel costs paid by the father", Mr Lidington said.

"It is an immoral formula which penalises responsible parents while absolving irresponsible or violent parents of any obligation towards their children," Under the system, children of mothers threatened with violence from their former partner will be maintained by the state.

All single parents on income support will have their entitlement to child maintenance assessed by the Child Support Agency. One of the aims is to save the government money. The number of lone parents receiving income support rose from 322,000 in 1979 to 895,000 in 1991.

Parents who are not receiving income support will be able to apply to the agency to renegotiate child maintenance.

Suicide student left two notes

By LIN JENKINS

AN Oxford University student found hanging at her home left a suicide note inside a copy of Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*, expressing her feelings of inadequacy, an inquest was told yesterday.

Pamela Wray, 21, killed herself four days before the start of a term at St Hilda's college, where she was reading French and German. She was expected to do well.

Her sister Bernadine Wray, 24, told the Oxford inquest that she found the note addressed to their parents five days after her death. Another letter was found near the body in the attic of the family home in Oxford.

John Wray, 53, an educational adviser, told how on January 13 he had returned from work to find his daughter "hanging from a rope suspended from the attic through a trap door. There was a plastic bag over her head."

Dr Kenneth Fleming, a pathologist, said she had died from asphyxiation. Nicholas Gardiner, the Oxfordshire coroner, recording a verdict of suicide, said he was "satisfied that Pamela Wray took the decision to end her life."

Publisher gambles on lottery

By ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

A £1 million literary lottery could boost the book marketing business as flagging sales continue to affect publishers.

Faber & Faber will replace the promotion of authors and their titles with cash prize incentives for book buyers.

The company, which publishes T. S. Eliot, Philip Larkin and Sir William Golding, says it will "revolutionise the trade" with its lottery game. It hopes pools-style winnings will attract the quarter of the British population which does not buy books.

A customer who buys a title from a back-list selection and completes a tie-breaker will be given the chance to pick a volume from a promotional Book Tower. Hidden in 99 of the 100 books in the tower are cheques for £10,000. One book will contain a £1 million cheque.

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Bad blood spilt as tourist rivals fight for the Dracula trade



Gothic chill: Whitby Abbey is named by Stoker

BY PAUL WILKINSON

IF COUNT Dracula were not undead, he would be spinning in his grave. Since the latest Hollywood revival of his story, by Francis Ford Coppola, everyone seems to be staking a claim to a piece of the legend. It has even set two towns at each other's throats.

Whitby, a fishing and tourist town on the North Yorkshire coast, has long been acknowledged as the British location for much of the action in Bram Stoker's gothic thriller. The book contains several references to the transfer of the count's boxes of earth from Transylvania to Whitby and, when describing their destination, Stoker writes: "The houses of the old town are all red-roofed and seen piled up one over the other... right over the town is the ruin of Whitby Abbey."

Now there is another claim, from Cruden Bay, north of Aberdeen.

Scottish tourist officials, divining a rich vein of visitors' gold, say that Slains Castle was the original model for Dracula's Transylvanian eyrie and that, in early drafts of the novel, it was Slains where the vampire first came ashore in the shape of a great black dog.

Hilary Fleming, a manager with the Banff and Buchan Tourist Board, said: "Cruden Bay has as much right to the strongest Dracula connections as anywhere else. Although Stoker visited Whitby and it figures in the book, it is really Cruden Bay that inspired it."

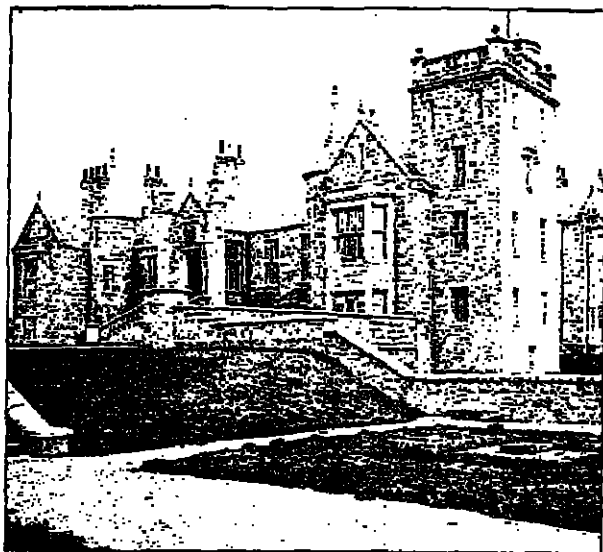
She suggests that many of the threads of the Dracula story are drawn from old Scottish fishermen's tales. "The storm sequence is more reminiscent of the Aberdeenshire coast than Whitby. It's about time this area was recognised as the place which gave Stoker his great idea." She plans a "Dracula spectacular" this summer.

In Whitby, where they are still

smarting over Coppola's removal of the setting from Yorkshire to London, the Dracula industry has been quick to bite back. Rex Greenwood, who guides tourists around the town's vampire trail and who has been doing Dracula impersonations for the past 37 years, said: "It's ridiculous. I've never seen the count in a kilt."

"I think it's just a case of Cruden Bay jumping on the bandwagon. Bram Stoker did visit Cruden Bay, but he was a renowned traveller who journeyed all over Britain. Scotland may have inspired some of his other novels, but not Dracula."

Whitby has cashed in on the Dracula story for many years. Tour operators regularly bring parties to the cliff-top churchyard where the count is supposed to have stalked his prey and the town house where Mina Murray, the object of his desire, stayed before she became one of the undead.



Early model: the cliff-top eyrie of Slains Castle

Teaching hospitals team up to fight Tomlinson merger

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

CONSULTANTS at the London teaching hospitals Guy's and St Thomas's have joined forces to oppose the recommended merger of their services on a single site.

They say that, contrary to proposals in the Tomlinson report on London's health care, both sites should be saved and there is insufficient room for both hospitals on one site, even after duplicated or unnecessary services are eliminated. They say that to merge in two years, as the report recommends, would damage services and harm patients.

Instead, both sites could be saved by providing a teaching hospital on one and a community hospital on the other with medical, dental and nursing schools. Extra space could be filled by moving departments from King's College of the University of London. Buildings owned by King's College in the Strand and west London could be sold.

In a letter to *The Times* published today, the consultants say that insufficient work has been done to assess the feasibility of the merger of the two hospitals. "Precipitate action could easily destroy the best of our clinical, educational and research facilities, which have taken many years to develop, and leave a dangerous deficit," they say.

The move comes as two

other leading teaching hospitals, St Bartholomew's and the Royal London, lock horns over Sir Bernard Tomlinson's proposal that they should merge on the Royal London's site with the closure of St Bartholomew's. In its first statement since the publication of the report, the Royal London condemns the Bart's strategy to preserve a specialist hospital on the Smithfield site as a retrograde step which offers little to local residents. The statement was circulated to MPs in the northeast Thames region this week.

Mike Fahey, chief executive of the Royal London, said that the merged hospitals would contain the best from both sites. Some departments would have to go and both hospitals would bear their share of the cuts. "Joy will be equally shared but so will misery," he said.

Charing Cross hospital in west London is also preparing to resist closure, as Tomlinson recommends, if it cannot be preserved as a specialist hospital absorbing the Royal Marsden and the Royal Brompton. Ian Donnachie, the chief executive, said he was confident that it could survive in the NHS market as a general hospital despite competition from the new Chelsea and Westminster.

The developments come as

Virginia Bottomley, the health secretary, puts the finishing touches to her response to the Tomlinson report. The announcement has been repeatedly delayed but is expected next week and is likely to focus on improvements to primary care and the rationalisation of specialist services.

The merger of University College and Middlesex hospitals is expected to be approved but final decisions on other closures are likely to be delayed until further work on their effects has been done.

Tony Young, consultant surgeon at St Thomas's and one of the signatories of the *Times* letter, said that doctors supported the establishment of a joint trust to run the two hospitals. "But for God's sake don't assume you can stuff us all on to one site because if you do it will be a disaster."

Professor Cyril Chantler, principal of Guy's medical school and another signatory, said that the plan had significant political advantages. "It would satisfy everybody and bring huge revenue savings. No government would want to close down St Thomas's and Guy's." He said it was the first time since 1836 that consultants from the two hospitals had co-operated over a change of this magnitude.

Letters, page 17

BRITISH ADVENTURERS ON THE BALKAN FRONT LINE



Overseas posting: Karl Whitburn, 23, from Birmingham, taking cover behind a knocked-out tank near enemy lines in Karlovac, Croatia

Professionalism is the most highly-prized weapon

TED Skinner, one of the British mercenaries murdered in Bosnia, had spent his Christmas staring down the night of his rifle before killing a Serb sniper. When he shot his enemy he felt nothing.

That kind of steel has made the best kind of British volunteers welcome in the war raging through Bosnia. They fight alongside Bosnian teenagers who barely know one end of a Kalashnikov from another.

Adam LeBor finds a former computer programmer from Blackpool among the foreign fighters risking their lives

few weeks' basic training in the Royal Corps of Transport and nothing more," said one senior UN officer. But others, like Ted Skinner and his fellow victim Derek Arnold, who had both claimed more than ten years' military experience, appear to have useful knowledge.

Mr Skinner trained soldiers in armed and unarmed combat. Mr Arnold specialised in teaching teenagers to be field medics. "They have four days to learn," Mr Arnold had said. "A lot of them are kids, 16, 17 or 18, and many of the soldiers are grunts. Some of them are instinctively good fighters who, with decent food and equipment, would be welcome in anyone's army."

The Bosnians are immensely grateful for the foreign fighters. "They have been

great to us," Mr Arnold had said. "We were billeted in an orthodox Muslim house on Christmas day but they made a pie for us and brought down some drinks. It was very moving."

Stories of hospitality like this are recounted by almost every British fighter in Bosnia, of whom there are plenty. In Kiseljak, outside Sarajevo, I met Simon, a computer programmer from Blackpool who had previously been an instructor in the Croatian army. Five British fighters turned up in central Bosnia one day, faces daubed with camouflage cream and their Manchester and Birmingham accents carrying above the rumble of Serb guns near by.

All the British fighters said they had served in the British army. But military experience proved useless when Mr Skinner and Mr Arnold were reportedly abducted from their flat in the battered central Bosnian town of Travnik. "Many kids come out here, but we know what we are on about," Mr Skinner had said. But in the end they were in too deep.

Would-be mercenaries can easily find adventure. They need only take a flight to Zagreb airport, reports Nicholas Watt

A COMBAT specialist claimed yesterday that many of the British mercenaries did not have extensive military experience.

David Lord, a former army officer now in charge of *Combat and Survival*, said: "Some of the men fighting out there are on £25 a week. With the enormous risks involved there is no way that you would get anyone with service experience taking on a job like that."

Modern mercenaries accumulate years of military experience before they were accepted as professionals. "You wouldn't get away with only two years' experience," Mr Lord said. "You are looking at three to five years before you have skills to pass on."

A former mercenary in Bosnia and Croatia said yesterday that he had encountered few professionals fighting there. Dave Connolly, a former lance corporal in the

Parachute Regiment, said: "I came across a former army captain who was in the special services. His passport was like a road map of the world, but there are very few like him. There is no official recruiting and people just come out. Some don't realise that there is more to a war than firing a gun."

Adventurers and idealists can easily find their way to the front line, according to Anthony Rogers, who has just returned from the area. "You just catch a plane to Zagreb where you are directed to a holding centre," he said.

Frederick Forsyth, who wrote the best-selling novel *The Dogs of War* about mercenaries in the Balkan war, said yesterday that the Balkan fighters were different. "The business started to go downhill in the 1970s when greedy entrepreneurs scraped men off the dole queue to go and fight in the Angolan war."

Mercenary deaths, page 1

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Kidnap' girl, 4, found safe

A four-year-old girl feared abducted from a hospital was found safe and well after a mix-up among her family. Her mother raised the alarm after Stephanie Brown was seen leaving Queen Mary's Hospital, in Sidcup, Kent, with an elderly man.

Stephanie had gone to the hospital with her mother to visit her two-week-old sister. Fifty police searched the hospital grounds before it was discovered that the girl's grandfather had collected her without telling her mother.

Trial date

Antony Bourgois, 20, a Frenchman of no fixed address, was sent for trial at Oxford Crown Court, accused of trying to kidnap the sister of the missing estate agent Suzy Lamplugh. He is also accused of falsely imprisoning Elizabeth Lamplugh, 22, of Oxford, and possessing an offensive weapon.

PC jailed

PC David Holcroft, 45, of the Metropolitan police, was jailed for two years at Southwark Crown Court, south London, for corruption and blackmail. He had denied demanding cash from a hotelier in Mayfair and from an illegal immigrant working at the hotel.

High hopes

A £20 million plan to build Britain's first "skypark" near Telford, Shropshire, is to go before a public enquiry. The proposal to build 65 homes, each with an aircraft hangar and taxi strip to a 1,000-metre runway, is backed by Wrekin District Council.

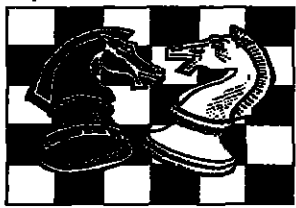
Last chance to play the best in the world

BY TIM JONES

TIME is running out for the chance to play chess against Gary Kasparov, the highest-rated player the world has known. Twenty-one four-person teams have signed up to meet the world champion in simultaneous combat and there is room for four more.

The Kasparov Charity Chess Challenge, which will raise money for the Sick Children's Trust, is sponsored by *The Times* and Simpson's-In-The-Strand restaurant. It takes place at the restaurant next Wednesday.

Banks and City institutions are well-represented and one investment house may put up a grandmaster. Future champions may be found in the team of ten- and 12-year-olds from Colet Court, the feeder school for St Paul's, London.



Other teams include a dental practice, Oxford United Football Club and the RAC Chess Circle.

Each team will pay £1,000 towards the charity and afterwards will join Kasparov and a host of celebrities for dinner.

For details contact Hilary Gilmour, of the Sick Children's Trust, on 071 404 3329.

Bentley's sister wins leave to fight pardon refusal

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE sister of Derek Bentley, who was hanged 40 years ago for his part in the murder of a policeman, yesterday won leave to challenge the home secretary over his refusal to grant a posthumous pardon.

Two judges gave the go-ahead to Iris Bentley to bring judicial review proceedings over Kenneth Clarke's decision last October to refuse a pardon, after hearing claims that the home secretary had "erred in law".

Lord Justice Watkins said there was an arguable case. "The matter should be cleared up as soon as possible and we order expedition." A three-judge court would hear the case soon after Easter.

David Pannick QC, for Miss Bentley, told Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Owen in a 25-minute hearing in the High Court in London that Mr Clarke had considered that a pardon depended on whether it could be established that Bentley

"was morally and technically innocent" of the crime of which he was convicted. "This is an error of law because it involves a failure to understand what a free pardon involves," Mr Pannick said. It would not entail recognition that Bentley was wrongly convicted, but was aimed at removing "all pains, penalties and punishments" which resulted from conviction.

He suggested that there might have been a misunderstanding of the current legal position over pardons by the home secretary. The case raised "a question of law of some importance, not simply to Miss Bentley, but generally."

Bentley was hanged in January 1953 for encouraging his accomplice, Christopher Craig, to shoot Constable Sydney Miles with the words "Let him have it, Chris", after the pair were caught attempting to burgle a sweet factory in Croydon,

south London, the previous year. Craig, who fired the fatal shot, was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure. He was released on licence in 1963.

Mr Pannick told the judges that Miss Bentley had devoted much of the last 40 years seeking to persuade others that her brother should not have been hanged.

Later, Miss Bentley, 60, of Colliers Wood, southwest London, hugged her 30-year-old daughter Maria and wept as she said: "I am being heard. That is what I have been fighting for 40 years - British justice."

An important police statement in the Bentley case, dating from 1952 and not previously made public, is featured in Carlton Television's *Storyline* programme tonight. MPs are invited to a special screening of the programme today in the Commons, set up by Tony Blair, shadow home secretary.



Forty-year battle: Iris Bentley after the decision

The way it isn't

CRAIG BROWN



IN A review of a dreary book by David Thomas, the last editor of *Punch*, Auberon Waugh has written that Thomas is "that rarity among our species, a man without the faintest glimmer of humour, or sense of the ridiculous, or even any awareness of the satirical tradition in English".

Few who encountered *Punch* under Thomas would deny the truth of this. But what is odd is how many of his predecessors were drawn from this rare species. Two or so editors before Thomas there was William Davis, a German of quite legendary unfunnyness. Davis went on to put his lack of irony to good use in his editorship of *High Life*, the British Air-

ways in-flight magazine, and his stewardship of the British Tourist Authority.

In the fifties Malcolm Muggeridge, being humorous, loathed being editor of *Punch*, noting in his diary that his readers reminded him of Dr Johnson's publisher - "he has no relish for humour, but he can bear it".

Why should so many of the magazine's editors have been humourless? I suspect it has to do with the people who chose them. Publishers are impressed by people who can talk about target audiences, capturing the youth market, exciting new "concepts" and so forth for hours and hours without giggling. They stay away from people who laugh and tell jokes, thinking them far too frivolous for the job of producing a weekly magazine.

Before they appointed their last editor, the publishers of *Punch* advertised for an editor under 35 who could capture the youth market. The only person under 35 who did not think this a joke was Thomas. A couple of years later, *Punch* closed.

Brown attacks Tory links with business 'cartels and cliques'

By JONATHAN PRYNN

GORDON Brown, the shadow Chancellor, has launched a stinging attack on the government's failure to act against "the network of mutual self-interest" in the City, the privatised utilities and the food lobby.

In a speech to Labour backbenchers yesterday morning, Mr Brown said it was "the historic mission" of the Labour party to stand up against cartels, cliques and vested interests.

Playing to the same policy tune as John Smith's weekend "mood music", Mr Brown emphasised the rights and "empowerment" of the individual citizen against under-regulated big business. The country was being "held to ransom" by a few vested interests closely tied to the Conservative party, he told the treasury committee of the Parliamentary Labour Party.

"While the Conservatives have been obsessed with one group of producers — the trade unions — producer groups close to the Tory party from estate agents to accountants and insurers have escaped from both the competition and regulation essential in the public interest."

Mr Brown identified three specific areas where "entrenched economic interests" supported by 14 years of

Conservative government were using their market power over consumers to overcharge for basic goods and services.

In banking and financial services "the gift of grossly inadequate regulation" was being used to overcharge individual and small business customers, Mr Brown said.

He called for an enquiry into banking practice to examine the case for enforceable customer contracts; an ombudsman to ensure redress for overcharging; a regulator to set standards for banking practice; a league table of charges set by different banks; investment short-termism, and the case for increased competition at the national and European level.

Thirteen Conservative MPs had directorships or consultancies with the major banks, Mr Brown said. "When people ask why, in the face of increased criticism, the Conservatives will not act, they should remember that much of the Tory party — in the Commons and Lords and even in the cabinet — comes from the banks, is of the banks and may soon be on its way back to the banks."

The privatised utilities were charging "excess profits made because of their near monopoly position... over which the Conservatives have failed to act", he said. During the

recession their profits had exceeded £35 billion, rising by 70 per cent. Mr Brown called for a freedom of information act for private sector utilities and floated the idea of a Commons private accounts committee to scrutinise private monopolies.

The government would not act, he said, because of the number of former Conservative ministers on the boards of the utilities and current Tory MPs serving as advisers.

The food and agricultural lobby was overcharging for food because of "the alliance of some big farming and food interests and the Ministry of Agriculture".

Irresponsible employers had been "systematically relieved of any obligations to work in the public interest", Mr Brown said.

The speech provoked a swift and scathing response from the government. Stephen Dorrell, the financial secretary to the Treasury, said the Conservative government had broken up a series of business monopolies and restrictive practices, whereas Labour "is still the creature of one particular producer interest — the trade union movement".

Mr Brown's speech was the first of a series in which he promises to flesh out Labour's new approach on economic policy.



Open-door policy: Gordon Brown accuses the Tories of failing to act against a "network of mutual self-interest"



Army faces new cuts under hidden agenda

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE government's announcement last week increasing army manpower by 3,000 made no reference to a hidden cuts agenda which was aimed at reducing the number of trained soldiers to only 101,400 by 1998.

Under the Options for Change defence programme, the army was to have been reduced by 40,000 soldiers from 156,000 to 116,000, of whom 104,000 would have been fully trained. However,

officials working on the Ministry of Defence's long-term costings programme, which plans ahead ten years, only allocated funding for 101,400 trained soldiers after 1998.

The figure of 104,000 would have remained for only three years, from 1995 to 1998, by which time 2,600 soldiers in Hong Kong, most of them Gurkhas, would have been withdrawn. Hong Kong is to revert to Chinese ownership in 1997. The funding assigned did not allow for them to be replaced. The lower figure was hinted at

in the Commons defence committee's report on the army cuts, published on Tuesday, although the MPs clearly did not know the official position.

The same reasoning is now being applied for the new figure for army manpower, boosted by 3,000 soldiers. On the face of it, the army in 1995 will consist of 119,000 troops, of whom 106,600 will be fully trained. However, it is clear that this higher level will also only last for three years. After 1998, the number of trained army personnel will drop to 104,000.

Cabinet debates health overhaul

By NICHOLAS WOOD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

VIRGINIA Bottomley's plans for overhauling London's health care will be put to the cabinet for approval today. The health secretary is expected to make an announcement next week about the fate of 15 hospitals threatened with closure or merger and about raising standards in the family doctor and cottage hospital service.

Today's cabinet discussion will be against the background of conflicting signals from the health department. Mrs Bottomley is anxious to avoid a repetition of the pit fiasco and she will frame her response to the Tomlinson report recommending the loss of 2,500 beds in such a way as to try to avoid headlines proclaiming drastic cutbacks.

However, she is also determined to demonstrate that she is not a soft touch and that she has the political will to push through controversial and unpopular changes. The announcement is being held back for a few days to allow time for the health department to draw up a paper detailing Mrs Bottomley's proposals. Internal discussion of the proposals in cabinet committee is believed to have centred on concerns about the presentation of decisions that could easily trigger another backbench revolt and popular outcry.

Juvenile crime up by 54% in decade

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A TEENAGE boy admitted a total of 540 crimes over seven years, police told MPs yesterday. Another had already been dealt with twice by police for offences of theft and burglary while still under the age of ten. Among scores of other offences he committed in his teens, he had used cut-throat razors, rammed police cars and driven stolen vehicles at dangerous speeds.

The case histories were included in details of offences committed by young offenders which police gave to the Commons home affairs committee yesterday.

One police force found that 1,771 crimes had been committed by 28 juveniles during 1991, with one individual admitting to 189 offences in one year.

Calling for new penalties to deal with a small core of persistent young offenders, the officers warned the committee of a vacuum since the abolition of approved schools and other institutions for dealing with such teenagers.

The committee's enquiry into juvenile offenders coincides with a new initiative promised by Kenneth Clarke, the home secretary, to deal with the problem.

The Association of Chief Police Officers and the Police Superintendents' Association estimated that the probable true rate of juvenile offenders had risen by 54 per cent between 1980 and 1990. The police witnesses also indicated that high unemployment and public spending pressures were partly to blame for the sharp rise.

The two associations said: "Social investments which may not appear to have immediate direct benefit, such as the long-term prevention of juven-

ile delinquency, can become targets for short-term savings." By comparison, in the United States, every dollar spent on juvenile delinquency prevention yielded savings of seven times the cost of dealing with offenders through the criminal procedures.

John Hoddinott, the Hampshire chief constable, said it was insulting to the jobless to claim that unemployment led to crime. "But it would be naive to say there is no link between hopelessness and criminality."

The witnesses said that first and second cautions worked in 70 to 80 per cent of cases. However, Vi Neild from the Police Federation said that after the third or fourth caution, youngsters regarded it as nothing more than a quick telling off at the police station. The superintendents' association said that cautioning became "almost a joke" among certain groups of offenders.

The Police Federation told the committee: "We recognise that young people face greater social pressures than at any other time."

In many inner city schools, truancy rates were high enough to suggest a near collapse of the education system. Those with little hope of a job also wanted a share of the consumer goods on display in shops. "Many make a habit of committing household burglaries, preying on their own neighbourhoods. They see no shame in crime. It is their way of earning a living."

They said that the profile of a typical persistent offender was a teenage boy with a low IQ, who exhibited anti-social behaviour from an early age, with a poor school record and lacking proper family support.

AROUND THE LOBBY

MP wins Patten apology

Chris Patten, the former Conservative party chairman and now governor of Hong Kong, apologised to Robert Wareing, Labour MP for Liverpool West Derby, in the High Court yesterday. He agreed to pay "substantial" damages over a letter accusing Mr Wareing of being a Militant Tendency supporter.

Mr Patten had written an "open letter" to Neil Kinnock in July 1991, naming 27 people, including Mr Wareing, who he claimed had supported or been associated with Militant. The letter received widespread national newspaper publicity.

Aid reform

Lord Mackay of Clashfern made clear in the Lords his determination to press ahead with legal aid reforms designed to save money. The new rules are due to come into effect on April 1.

Prison site

The government has chosen Fazakerley, Liverpool, as the site for Britain's latest prison. Peter Lloyd, Home Office minister, said in a written reply. The 600-place prison is opposed locally and a public enquiry may be needed.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Home Office: prime minister. Motion on local government finance.

Lords (3): Asylum and immigration appeals bill, committee, second day.

'Poodle press' ruled out

By JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Press Complaints Commission must be "beefed up", Peter Brooke, the heritage secretary, said yesterday. However, made it clear that the government was still reluctant to support a statutory press tribunal. Speaking at the annual lunch of the Newspaper Press Fund, Mr Brooke said that no one living in a democratic society wished to see a shackled or "poodle press", but every freedom carried a responsibility.

The government agreed completely with Sir David Calcutt that the Press Complaints Commission was not an effective regulatory body, he said.

"Although we recognise the strength of Sir David's arguments in support of a statutory press tribunal, the government is very conscious that such a step would be one of some constitu-



Brooke: watchdog must be beefed up

tional significance." Mr Brooke outlined the government's present thinking on its response to the Calcutt report, but made it clear that there would be no early decisions. Ministers would take into account a report from the Commons national heritage select committee, due at the end of this month, and the debate during the committee stage of Clive

Soley's private member's bill on press restraints, he said.

The government would bring forward legislation to create new criminal offences, dealing with physical intrusion and surveillance, he said. In addition the government would be looking at changes to the Data Protection Act in relation to personal privacy and legislation covering telephone bugging.

Ministers were also giving further consideration to introducing a new tort of infringement of privacy.

Mr Brooke refused to be drawn on comments by Lord Rothermere, chairman of Associated Newspapers, that suggestions to impose VAT on newspapers would reduce readership and lose jobs. "Does a government genuinely concerned about declining standards of literacy, really intend to tax the written word?" Lord Rothermere asked.



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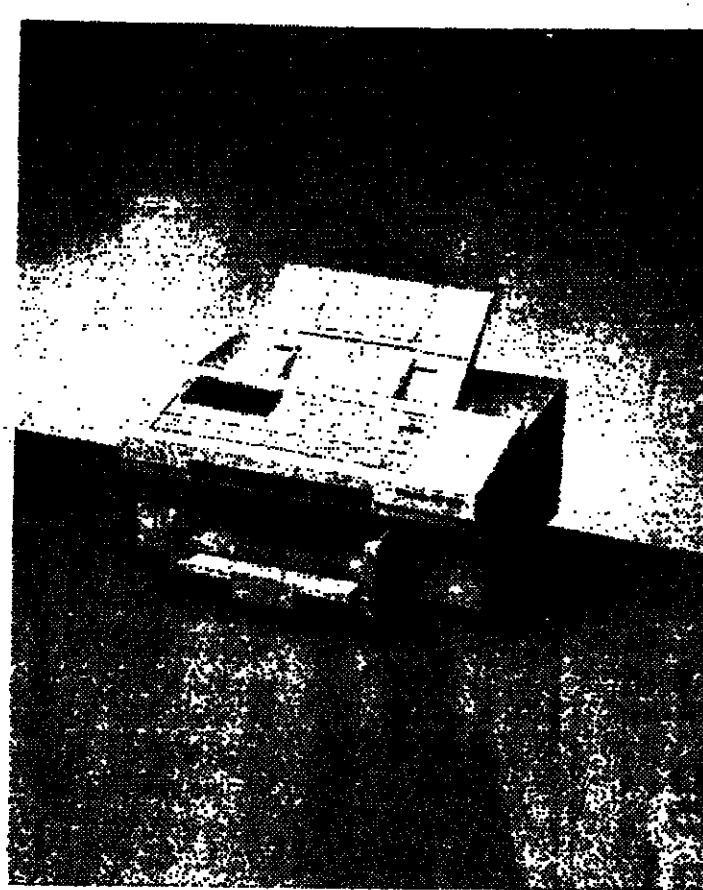
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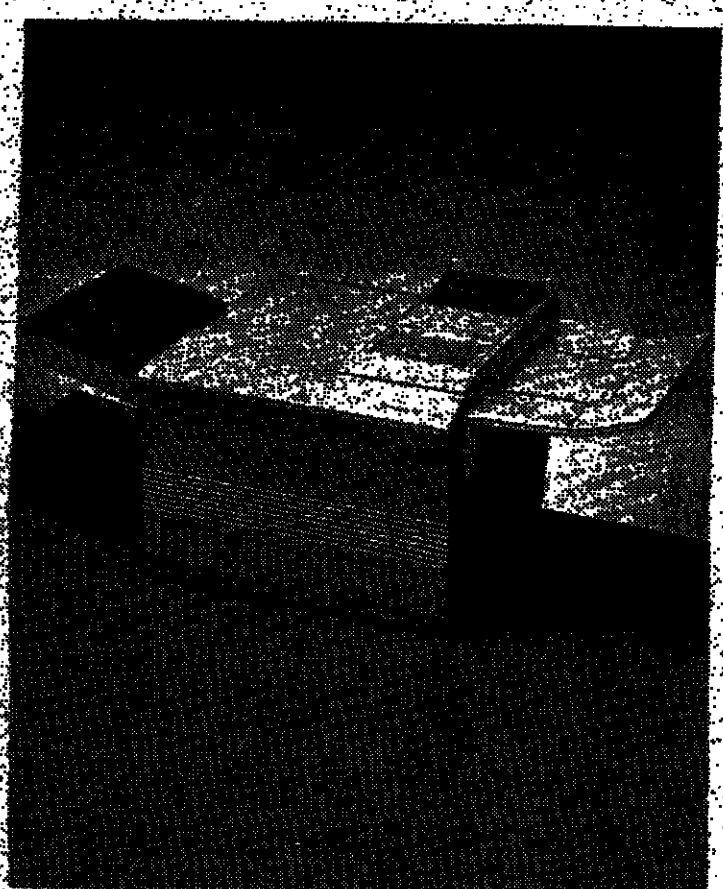
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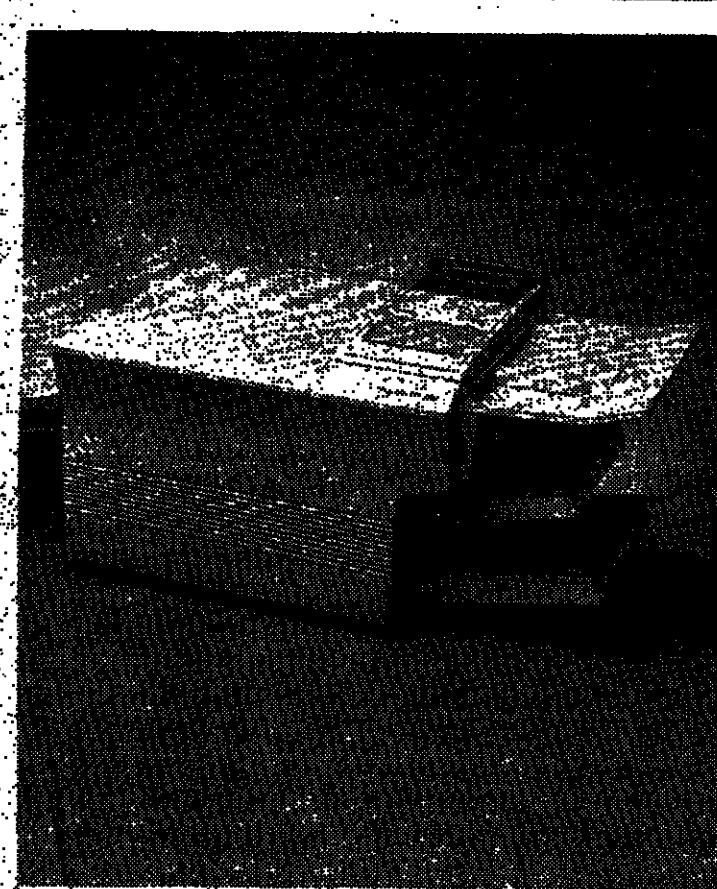
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Sound of music rises above sniper fire in Sarajevo's bohemia

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS
IN SARAJEVO

A THREE-MONTH blockade and constant harassment from snipers and artillery have brought out the best in the yuppies of Dobrinja, a frontline suburb of Sarajevo that has built on its intellectual traditions and computerised lifestyle to become a showpiece of Muslim organisation in wartime.

Sitting at his easel in the Akademski Slikar art school, Nedžad Kapich, 16, tries to ignore the sound of shooting in the street outside as he sketches under the watchful eye of Muhiriz Mimica, his teacher. "Every day for seven months I have run past snip-

Chaos holds sway in the centre of the Bosnian capital. The city's indomitable residents keep the flame of culture alive despite the barrage of Serb artillery

ers through three checkpoints to reach my drawing class," Nedžad says. "I really hope the situation will improve. There are 22 graves by my building and those are just people killed in my street."

In the next classroom, four teenagers are playing Bach on their guitars. "If you love music it is not difficult to concentrate," Kadran Fajkovic, 17, says. "We all have our own instruments and we play classics and rock. After I

finish school I want to have my own band."

Before the assault on Sarajevo began, Dobrinja, on the southwestern outskirts of the city next to its airport, was a favoured address for young professional couples unable to afford the high rents of the centre. After the Serb assault started on the Bosnian capital, the cluster of high-rise flats, concrete shopping precincts and its 45,000 inhabitants were cut off entirely from the

rest of the city for three months. Two burnt-out Soviet-made Serbian tanks on a ridge overlooking the main square testify to the fierce resistance put up by the poorly armed defenders.

Serbian sharpshooters from the front lines a few hundred yards away still target pedestrians running across the main square periodically throughout the day, in spite of a unilateral Bosnian ceasefire. Each night hundreds of residents try to creep through holes in the airport fence to buy fruit and eggs at the Muslim stronghold of Butnik half a mile away. The dash past French United Nations troops deployed on the runways also is believed to be an

important source of arms for the mainly Muslim Bosnian army.

The idealism of civil protection authorities in Dobrinja contrasts strikingly with the chaos reigning in the centre of Sarajevo. The black market is strictly forbidden and residents insist food aid delivered here always reaches its destination. In a communal workshop, Halim Koljenovic, the foreman, says he and his six workers have produced more than 1,000 metal stoves for free distribution to inhabitants.

Across the square, a secondary school has resumed in a sandbagged classroom. The headmaster, Smail Vesnic, supervises pupils taking exami-

nations on word processors. "The children were happy when the school reopened. They have adapted to the war," Mr Vesnic uses the adjoining Dobrinja television station to advise parents of changes in his timetable. "Yesterday there was a bombardment and we had to cancel the afternoon class."

An enterprising surgeon unable to commute to work in Sarajevo, Dr Youssef Hajir, organised the Dobrinja hospital from scratch in a warehouse. "At the beginning we worked only with local anaesthetics, including for some amputations. For the first ten operations I had no surgical gloves. I had no experience of battle wounds, but I learned.

Now we have 34 doctors including 15 specialists and provide a complete service."

The inhabitants frequently seem abandoned by authorities. Concrete barricades have been erected on a few of the main crossroads in the city centre as protection from snipers. But at most intersections citizens still have to run for their lives to the next block. The black market thrives with little official attempt to curb profiteering. A bundle of firewood sells for 25 marks (£10) and a home-made aluminium stove for 200 marks.

Fresh fruit and vegetables are unobtainable. The staple diet is rice and macaroni, down in by the UN airlift. But wine and spirits are available

in plentiful supply. Most homes are still without electricity, water or telephones.

Bureaucratic bungling contrasts with the initiative of many private citizens. Ejup Aljica, a rich philanthropist, started feeding the needy in the old town with supplies he had stockpiled before the war, reportedly paying 400,000 marks from his own pocket.

Grimbling may be widespread and justified, but the indomitable spirit and will to resist of ordinary people lives on. This week hundreds of Sarajevo citizens attended a concert performed in a hotel by the 50-piece Bosnia-Herzegovina Army Orchestra to mark the ninth anniversary of the Sarajevo Olympics.

Nato tipped for the job of policing Bosnia deal

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT
AND TIM JUDAH IN BELGRADE

NATO is expected to be given the role of keeping the peace in Bosnia. If the three warring factions accept the Owen-Vance plan and agree to a genuine ceasefire, British soldiers would probably be involved in the new mission.

A peacekeeping operation in the former Yugoslavia would be the first such mission in NATO's history. Last year, in Oslo, Nato foreign ministers agreed that the alliance should take on a peacekeeping role outside its traditional borders.

The growing belief that Nato will be called on to supervise the peace in Bosnia comes after signals from Washington that the United States may be ready to send troops. An estimated 25,000 would be needed to implement the peace plan proposed by Lord Owen and Cyrus Vance, the two international negotiators.

The British government would find it difficult to resist a request to send troops, or to convert the role of the 2,400 soldiers currently performing humanitarian relief operations in Bosnia into peacekeepers, once America is involved. Army sources have indicated that the British contribution might have to be increased to a brigade of 6,000-7,500 men if the mission switched roles.

After last week's announcement that four British regiments are to be saved from amalgamation to provide additional soldiers, the British army would be in a slightly better position to send more troops. However, any increased commitment in Bosnia would erode the leeway created by the reinstatement of the additional 3,000 troops after the government's change of mind over army manpower.

Yesterday Nato officials said the readiness by America to commit troops and recent signals from the United Nations meant that the 16-nation alliance could get the job of enforcing any peace agreement in Bosnia. "There is a good chance we will be able to start military planning soon and, if we get clearance from the UN, it will set a remark-

able precedent for Nato," one alliance diplomat said.

Nato officials admitted that as long as Washington refused to commit troops there could be no question of involving the alliance in a formal role in Bosnia. However, the alliance is already contributing to the humanitarian relief mission. The Nato headquarters based at Kiseljak, west of Sarajevo, has British, Belgian, Dutch and Danish soldiers serving on the staff. There are also 15 American officers. Nato has also provided Awaac early-warning planes and warships to enforce the arms and trade sanctions against the former Yugoslav republics.

With UN peacekeeping resources round the world now stretched to breaking point, Nato officials said it would make sense to give it the task in Bosnia, since it had a unique network of command structures.

Marrack Goulding, the UN under-secretary-general for peacekeeping, said this week that Nato could act as a "sub-contractor" to enforce any eventual peace plan, under overall United Nations authority.

If the UN asks Nato to enforce a peace plan, all 16 member nations would first have to agree, although not all nations would be obliged to take part in the mission. Nato ambassadors agreed at a meeting yesterday to send the UN its military plans for preventing the conflict spreading through the Balkans and for creating "safe zones" for victims of the war in Bosnia.

They endorsed a military assessment that thousands of soldiers would be needed. Several thousand more soldiers would be required to prevent the fighting from spilling over into the neighbouring regions of Kosovo and Macedonia, officials said.

Bulgaria and Romania called on the UN yesterday to station patrols at ports down the Danube in an effort to stop Serbian sanctions-busting vessels. Officials of the two countries met in Sofia after oil-laden Serb barges pushed past Bulgarian and Romanian patrol boats last month.



Night terror: Serb artillery shelling Croat positions at Obrovac, 40 miles northwest of Knin, capital of the Serb-held Krajina enclave. Fighting continued in Bosnia and Croatia yesterday

Exit by Panic leaves stage to hardliners

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE AND DESSA TREVISAN

MILAN Panic, the American-Yugoslav millionaire who vainly tried to unseat Slobodan Milosevic as president of Serbia, presides over his last cabinet meeting as Yugoslav prime minister today. He will be succeeded in the next few days by his deputy, Radoje Kontic, a Montenegrin hardliner.

The departure of Mr Panic leaves the power of moderates in Belgrade depleted. Opposition groups in the Serbian capital accuse the West of not doing enough to support Mr Panic during the presidential election campaign.

Days after the December 20 poll, Mr Panic lost confidence votes in both houses of the Yugoslav parliament. The motions were introduced by Vojislav Seselj, whose extreme nationalist Radical party garnered 74 seats in the 250-seat parliament, after holding just one before elections which coincided with the presidential poll. Mr Panic remained in office while Mr Kontic put together a new coalition.

Fears are now growing that Serbian extremists — widely seen as the main forces of evil on the Balkan battlefields — could bolster their support by

appealing to Serbian nationalism in the face of tougher United Nations sanctions against the rump Yugoslavia. New sanctions have already been drawn up by the European Community and are likely to be imposed as part of the Vance-Owen peace plan for Bosnia when America has decided how it wants to change the scheme.

Rajko Bogojevic, charge d'affaires at the Yugoslav embassy in London, said new sanctions were more likely to help than hinder Serbian extremists. "We are looking for more support from the West for the democratic forces in Yugoslavia. Instead of a carrot and a stick, we seem to get a stick in one hand and a stick in the other hand as well."

Opposition groups in Serbia say the West should have indicated that sanctions against the rump Yugoslavia would have been eased in the event of a panic win in the elections, bolstering his chances of defeating Mr Milosevic.

Mr Panic has declared that he will stay in Belgrade to work with opponents of Mr Milosevic, but his American advisers are going back

Battle rages on airwaves for hearts and minds of Bosnia

BY TIM JUDAH

THE air war over Bosnia and Croatia is in full swing. Not a single aircraft is in flight, though — this is the battle for hearts and minds. As Muslims, Croats and Serbs struggle for territory their respective radio stations are fighting for listeners. Throughout the war zones "enemy" radio is a mere twist of the dial away.

Across large parts of Bosnia, Radio Zagreb and Radio Belgrade hurl insults at each other, while Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina, broadcasting from beleaguered Sarajevo fights its own war. "The main task of the Serb National Socialists is to break apart one people who speak one language and have lived together for 13 centuries," intones a Bosnian commentator. "To do this they are trying to kill as many as possible and convert as many as possible into murderers."

From distant battlefields, Radio Bosnia's correspondents file faint and crackly dispatches on ham radios, whose awful quality somehow adds to the drama. Serb forces are "Chetnik aggressors", referring to second world war Serb nationalists

fighters. Bosnia's own soldiers, formerly the Territorial Defence, are now the proud army of Bosnia-Herzegovina. A centimetre across the dial Radio Belgrade taunts Zagreb. "Croat journalists have been ordered to report a calming of the situation in central Bosnia. In fact it becomes more serious every day," the newsreader exults.

"There are severe clashes in Zenica (between Croats and Muslims) and the Croats are in flight."

For Serb radio stations, Croats are "Ustasas", the name of Croatia's wartime fascists. The Muslims are "Mujahidin" or "Islamic extremists", their ranks swollen by thousands of foreign mercenaries. The front line is close to Muslim-controlled Tuzla, and thousands of refugees have fled there in the last few days.

But Radio Tuzla reflects one of the many strange contradictions of the war. Unlike Sarajevo, where barely a single shop continues to work, the air time on Radio Tuzla is packed with commercials. "Tuzla, Split, Zagreb, Vienna!" is the catchy jingle advertising express buses to

Austria. Despite the conflict tone, the advert cannot hide the hell of war. Owing to the meandering front lines, the journey is the equivalent of driving from London to Paris — via Edinburgh.

A notch up the dial, Radio Zagreb devotes lavish coverage to President Tudjman's every word and deed. Next door the radio stations of the Serb-held Krajina enclave within Croatia pump out a bizarre cocktail of music and information. "I don't exist, because I don't exist," wails a Radio Koina, before the announcer asks listeners to "help refugees expelled by the Ustasha hordes."

Radio Knin, at the hub of the Krajina enclave, subsists on a diet of second world war Chetnik ballads which vow to "liquidate Tito's partisans" and call incessantly: "Oh Serbs, rise up, rise up!"

There are few shops with much to sell in Knin, so air space once filled with adverts is taken up with messages from families hunting lost loved ones: "Dane and Danica Janisic are calling the Kozul family. We will take care of you."

Minister in bribes enquiry resigns

FROM PHILIP WILLAN
IN ROME

CLAUDIO Martelli, the Italian justice minister who spearheaded a recent drive against the Mafia and was a candidate to succeed Bettino Craxi as secretary of the Socialists, resigned from his post and the party yesterday after learning that he was under investigation on corruption charges.

Signor Martelli, 49, announced his decision after speaking to Milan magistrates investigating allegations that he had siphoned an illegal \$7 million (about £4 million) commission from Roberto Calvi, the Banco Ambrosiano chairman, into a Swiss bank account.

The allegation first emerged in 1981 when police confiscated a note from Licio Gelli, the head of the outlawed P2 masonic lodge. In it Signor Gelli claimed that the payment from Calvi was a commission on a \$50 million loan to the Banco Ambrosiano from the Socialist-controlled state energy holding, ENI.

According to Signor Gelli, the money was paid into an account codenamed Protection at the Union de Banques Suisses in Lugano, at the disposal of Signor Martelli, on behalf of Signor Craxi. Signor Martelli has always denied having anything to do with the account.

The Milan magistrates' enquiry was given new impetus when Silvano Larini, an architect and long-standing friend of Signor Craxi, gave himself up to police on Sunday.

Signor Larini, who has been charged with taking some £10 million worth of illegal payments on behalf of Signor Craxi and the Socialist party, reportedly admitted that he was the owner of the Protection account and said that the money had been paid into it on instructions from Signor Martelli and Signor Craxi.

Signor Martelli said: "I am sure I can demonstrate my innocence and my good faith but I want to do so as a simple citizen and member of parliament so that no one can suspect me of having used my position as a minister for a privileged defence."

Signor Craxi is expected to resign as party secretary today as the Socialists begin a conference to elect his successor. Military reform: Italy plans to overhaul its armed forces, making staff cuts and upgrading equipment and facilities, a defence ministry document says. The armed force of 360,000 will be cut to 287,100. (AFP)

Autobahn tolls run into angst

BY MICHAEL BINYON

GERMAN government proposals to privatise the nation's huge autobahn network and levy annual tolls have thrown the country into uproar.

Driving organisations accused Bonn of trying to impose a huge new tax on the population by sleight of hand. The popular newspapers, reflecting Germany's cherished attachment to a network that is largely free of speed restrictions or any charges, described the plan as "excessive and anti-social", saying the motorist was again being made the mitch-cow of the nation. Radio phone-in programmes were overwhelmed by a torrent of complaints.

Günther Krause, the transport minister, yesterday tried to cool passions by insisting that the annual tolls of DM600 (£52) for cars and DM6,000 (£520) for lorries proposed at Tuesday's cabinet meeting have not been officially fixed. But there seems little chance of any change in the decision to make Germans, like many other Europeans, pay for the convenience of driving fast.

The social chapter Delors renews fight for Maastricht

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN STRASBOURG

JACQUES Delors, president of the European Commission, promised yesterday to "take up the cudgels again" for the European Community's social chapter. He was speaking as European governments began a high-risk game of "chicken" about the future of the Maastricht treaty.

When John Major declared he had won "game, set and match" for Britain at the Maastricht summit in December 1991, most of his outmanoeuvred opponents predicted that Britain's opt-out from a new round of Community social and labour laws would breed complicated legal cross-infections. Nobody, however, can have realised at the time that the legal confusion would begin even before the treaty comes into force.

If the Labour party's amendment is passed at Westminster some time before Easter, Britain will come under unprecedented pressure from every EC state except Denmark to compromise enough to save the treaty.

If the treaty collapses, the Community will confront the

gravest crisis of its history. On the other hand, none of the ten governments which have already ratified the treaty would really want to go ahead without Britain or Denmark. One



Delors speaking in Strasbourg yesterday

view is that altering the treaty to include Britain in the social chapter would be quick and simple, allowing the treaty to carry on to ratification. This is uncharted legal territory. But certainly the Downing Street and Foreign Office assertion

that a government defeat in the Commons would automatically mean restarting the treaty talks is dubious.

An "inter-governmental conference" would be necessary to alter the treaty text. But this grand-sounding event can be organised by EC ambassadors if necessary and take five minutes. Officials working for Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, however, are quietly suggesting that new ratifications would be a problem, implying that Mr Major's possible defeat would lead to an impasse. The German leader has always been sympathetic to Mr Major's difficulties over the social chapter, perhaps because, deep down, he does not much like it himself. But the present Socialist French government makes clear that nothing would be easier than for Britain to see sense and join the social chapter.

Addressing the European parliament in Strasbourg yesterday, Mr Delors hinted that the Commission intended to return to its activist role if and when the Maastricht treaty on

political and monetary union is ratified and comes into force. "Workers," he said, "have the impression that 'social Europe' is a mirage."

Questioned by MEPs a few minutes later, however, he acknowledged that the Community should not go as far as imposing a minimum wage which would strangle growth and stunt the economic development of its poorest regions.

"The social dimension is, quite simply, an integral part of the European venture," he said. "It will become a reality thanks to the social dialogue and new opportunities opened up by the protocol to the Maastricht treaty."

Recession and the muddled objectives of European governments meant that "the very idea of a united Europe is in peril", the Commission president said. Routine co-operation between states had weakened in the face of recession and unemployment and economic policies had been "renationalised", he added.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 21

Bonn fears worst postwar recession

FROM MICHAEL BINYON IN BONN

GERMANY'S new economic minister sounded a call to arms yesterday, urging his country to mobilise all its resources to prevent it falling into the worst recession since the second world war.

After unveiling a gloomy government economic outlook for the rest of the year, Günter Rexrodt told a press conference yesterday: "We are in a downturn phase. A downturn is a recession. I can't say whether it will become the deepest recession since the war, but we must concentrate all our resources on preventing it from becoming the worst post-war recession."

The economic report forecasts stagnation for the remainder of the year. In the west, it sees an overall fall of 1 per cent in economic output, after growth last year of only 1.6 per cent. This is only slightly offset by a rise of 7 per cent in the still deeply depressed east, but such growth is almost entirely artificial, reflecting the massive investment from the

west. West Germans will also experience an unwelcome real drop in living standards, with prices rising higher than wages.

The government admitted that, after nine years' growth, the economy was stuck in a cyclical downturn and no end was in sight. The main tasks now were to ward off recession, speed up recovery in the east, and encourage enough confidence to mobilise private capital. The report says recovery must be export-led, and foresees an increase of up to 2 per cent in exports. It urges moderation in wage claims, funding of the public sector, a dampening of price rises and a further fall in interest rates.

The report comes a few days after a steep monthly rise in unemployment, which in January pushed the numbers of jobless up to 3.5 million, the highest level since the country was unified. More than 230,000 jobs were lost, with the western part of the country being hit particularly badly.

Ukraine leader in London

Kravchuk taken to task on arms delay

By EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

PRESIDENT Kravchuk of Ukraine was forced to defend broken arms control promises yesterday, when John Major pressed him during talks in London to ratify the strategic arms reduction treaty (Start I) as soon as possible.

Parliament in Kiev failed to honour a pledge to ratify the strategic arms reduction pact by the end of last year, even though all the parliaments of the former Soviet nuclear republics — Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan — must ratify it before Russia or the United States can begin dismantling their arsenals. The treaty seeks the transfer to Russia of 176 Soviet missiles on Ukrainian territory. The missiles would then be destroyed.

"I hope that the obligations of President Kravchuk and your government will remain firm," Mr Major said in an interview published in Kiev. "It is in the full interests of Ukraine to carry out its obligations as quickly as possible in ratifying the Start I treaty. Through this you will be sure that the process of Ukraine's integration in world community will be speeded up."

A growing coalition of former communists and nationalists suggests that Ukraine ought to keep at least some of the nuclear weapons on Ukrainian soil and senior officials want more compensation for the loss of expensive nuclear components, and to clean up missile sites. Leonid Kuchma, the Ukrainian prime minister, has dismissed as insufficient an initial American offer of \$175 million (£123 million).

Mr Kravchuk, who arrived for a three-day state visit on Tuesday, is a former communist who turned nationalist after the Soviet Union disintegrated. Before becoming leader in 1990, he supported the Kremlin and was scathing in his attacks on Ukrainian nationalists. During the late 1980s his responsibilities in the Communist party included culture and he helped publish a book portraying Ukraine as a loyal junior brother of Russia.

Mr Kravchuk did not leave the party until after the coup of August 1991, a decision which has cost him some credibility in the West. After the putsch, he appealed to his countrymen because he stood as a symbol of moderate change and used contacts in the state media to good effect.

Mr Kravchuk and Mr Major were also expected to discuss Ukrainian compliance with United Nations sanctions against the rump Yugoslavia. Several barges carrying oil

loaded in Ukraine's Danube port of Reni reached Serbia in January in violation of the sanctions. Ukraine has detained a number of Serbian vessels and pledged to tighten procedures.

Inspectors yesterday said they had found no evidence that Ukraine deliberately shipped the oil. But three inspectors did question the actions of a customs official who allowed the barges to leave. "Had common sense prevailed, he would have treated it as a suspect shipment," said Bogdan Lisovich, UN deputy representative in Kiev. "The inspectors thought that it was not Ukrainian oil. Legally, Ukraine is in the clear and was very co-operative."

In London, Mr Kravchuk is looking for financial assistance to help Ukraine's painful transition to market economics. Trade between Britain and Ukraine amounted to less than £10 million during the first nine months of 1992.

□ Kiev: Viktor Pilipenko, Ukraine's minister for merchant shipping, was named in a report on corruption in the Black Sea merchant fleet and faces dismissal, according to Reuters. The documents said it was "inexpedient" for Mr Pilipenko to stay.



An eye to detail: a Russian army officer inspecting an official guard of honour in Moscow yesterday. The unit was set up for ceremonial occasions like state visits

Yeltsin hopes for political truce at meeting with rival

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin meets his arch-rival, Ruslan Khasbulatov, the parliamentary speaker, today to try to reach a truce in the struggle threatening to paralyse the Russian government, the political system and the reform process.

The meeting was called by the president and is to be umpired by Valeri Zorkin, the chairman of the constitutional court. Mr Zorkin yesterday lectured the two politicians on the need to set aside their differences to save the country from disintegration. "If they are sensible, an agreement will be reached," he said.

Mr Zorkin said that, when he talked to the two men on the telephone, "I felt that they were smiling with relief that everything would be fine in Russia". But most people think that it is a long time since Mr Yeltsin, at least, has had anything to smile about.

Mr Zorkin repeated his criticism of Mr Yeltsin's earlier plan to hold a referendum on the constitution on April 11, saying that the main leaders agreed that it would cause more turmoil. He asked: "What can a referendum lead to when passions are running high, the country is impoverished and the general situation is catastrophic?" Mr Zorkin opposed the calling of early elections, as proposed by both Mr Yeltsin and Mr Khasbulatov. "Both the president and the deputies should agree terms, so that people take a more responsible attitude towards elections for these posts. Otherwise we will never hold planned elections," Mr Zorkin said.

On Tuesday, in what was seen as a defeat, Mr Yeltsin expressed his willingness to abandon the referendum if another solution to the political deadlock could be found. He has proposed a one-year moratorium on political conflict for the sake of economic reform, but observers have seen this as, at best, to win popularity by appearing patriotically "above politics" and, at worst, a sign that the president, previously renowned for his wiliness, is losing his grip.

With Mr Yeltsin seemingly on the run, the reasons why Mr Khasbulatov should agree to a truce are not so clear. On the other hand, Mr Khasbulatov is widely believed to be eyeing the post of prime minister under a post-Yeltsin presidency as his goal. For this reason, he might well also wish to appear as a reasonable figure, capable of compromise for the sake of the country.

If there is one thing on which all opinion polls are agreed, it is that ordinary Russians are furious with all politicians for what they see as their greed for power.

Leading article, page 17

French right cools its zeal for market à la Thatcher

France's right-wing opposition alliance is clear in its manifesto about the policies it wants to abandon, but a good deal less specific in charting the way forward

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

AFTER months of squabbling, France's conservative parties yesterday revealed their plan for reviving the country, assuming — as all the polls do — that they will win next month's parliamentary election.

Their manifesto, far less radical than their free-market version of the 1980s, promises to pursue European union, a strong franc, the immediate creation of an independent central bank and the sale of state-owned companies. The document also promises a more aggressive defence of French interests abroad.

The Gaullist RPR party, led by Jacques Chirac, and the centre-right UDF, led by Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, his arch-rival, finally patched up their differences as President Mitterrand again succeeded in unsettling them with vague

French call Thatcher-style economics, have clearly tempered the free-market ardour which the conservatives brought to their two-year term in the mid-1980s. Their new programme, which is vague on detail and contains no figures, avoids any threat to the popular but expensive social benefits brought in by the Socialists over ten of the past 12 years.

The document promises to revive the economy through lower income taxes for the middle classes, lower payroll taxes for business and the creation of jobs.

The next government's plans for Europe attracted intense interest because a majority of Gaullist voters rejected the Maastricht treaty and dissidents in both parties are calling for the abandonment of the franc-mark link in the European Monetary System. M Mitterrand has said he will refuse to appoint a prime minister who is not fully pro-European.

The manifesto incorporates much of the thinking of Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist mandarin and former finance minister, who is the top candidate for prime minister. It foresees continued efforts to build a united Europe, notably in monetary, defence and security matters, and advocates an expansion of the Community.

"The EMS must be reinforced," it says. This would in part be brought about "by close co-operation with Germany to achieve... in concert with our European partners, a co-ordinated policy of lower interest rates."



Chirac: patched up his differences with rival

threats about sharing power. According to the polls, the UDF-RPR group can expect a landslide, at the expense of M Mitterrand's Socialist party, in the two-round election on March 21 and 28.

The president's scope for causing trouble is great because, as chief executive, he will appoint the prime minister and can dissolve parliament. "We have to stay vigilant," Charles Millon, the UDF's parliamentary leader, said. "François Mitterrand has more than one trick up his sleeve."

The conservatives' manifesto says: "France is calling out for change... After more than ten years of socialism, France is in crisis." Unemployment is rife, bankruptcies are common, the agricultural world is abandoned and France is deeply in debt, it says. "The crisis is also moral and one of identity, fed by the spectacle of corruption and a sense of injustice." This last claim is an allusion to the scandals currently afflicting Socialist politicians.

The reality of recession and the passing of the fashion for "ultra-liberalism", as the

known as the Union for France, the conservative alliance also promises to defend French farmers by demanding the reform of last year's revision of the common agricultural policy. Its manifesto adds that it views the US-EC accord on farm trade of last November as completely unacceptable. The union also promises to reform education and tighten up on immigration, two long-standing concerns of the right. In a nod to the increasingly powerful green parties, it promises to tackle "the environmental challenge".

The Socialists at once denounced the conservatives' programme as "very vague and very contradictory". Applying the promises would mean adding tens of millions of francs to the budget deficit, Christian Piarret, their campaign director, said. Media commentators pointed to the Union's caution in comparison with the programme the conservatives espoused for their brief stint in power.

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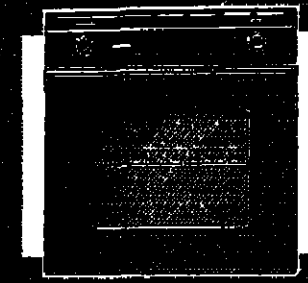
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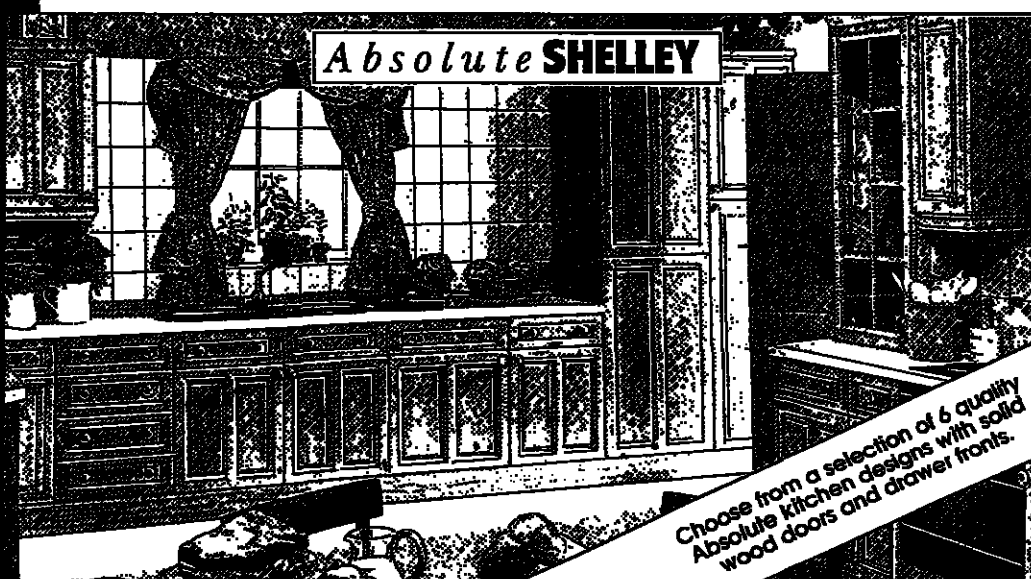
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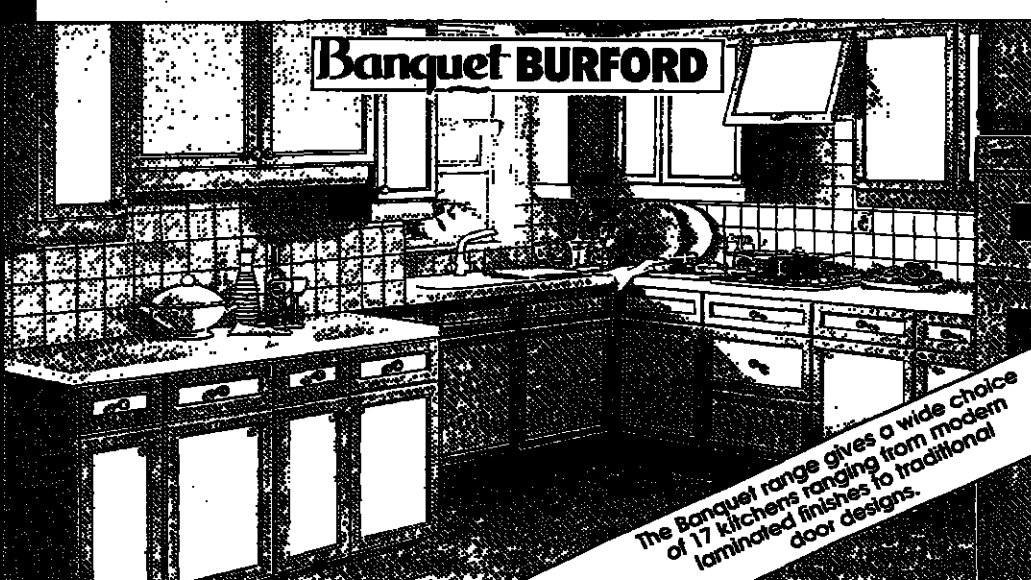
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Khomeini's legacy pits cynical rich against embittered poor

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN TEHRAN

MANY of the Iranians who will march in Tehran's streets today to mark the anniversary of the proclamation of the Islamic republic will be aware that its viability is now more in question than at any time since Ayatollah Khomeini returned from exile in 1979.

Fourteen years after the Islamic revolution, Tehran remains a tale of two cities: its northern half housing the rich and often cynical, who fight a rearguard action to keep old values alive, while the overcrowded south is a sprawling shum dominated by the "dispossessed" in whose name the Shah was toppled. Newcomers to the city,

Fourteen years after the revolution, Tehran is divided: in the north boutiques, in the south open sewers. Yet north and south must unite if anything is to change

which has seen its population more than double since the 1986 census put it at six million, are invariably astonished to find the attractive, walled streets in the north packed with boutiques displaying risqué Parisian designs, showrooms for BMW cars and French bistros like Ghoo, where men and single women make assignments across tightly packed tables. Behind the thick curtains of villas, some with swimming pools and others with pe-

cocks strutting the lawns, contraband alcohol flows like water (Johnny Walker Black Label sells for the equivalent of £40), ladies outshine their Western guests with plunging necklines, and illegal videos for unlawful video machines are hand-delivered in brown paper parcels. Some of the affluent are mullahs, who have profited from requisitioned businesses once in private hands, others are merchants thriving on fluctuating exchange rates

that can make them 20 times wealthier on a single deal. There are also "Islamic capitalists" whose money is being made on the stock exchange, which is bullish once again.

The squads of Islamic vigilantes, back in force on the streets, have failed to curb the affluent lifestyle of the upper classes. The supposedly forbidden quilts worn by young women are more outrageously patterned than ever. Men and women hold hands despite the threat of a flogging. There are many such examples of what the radicals refer to angrily as "bad hejab", breaches of the dress code which are adhered to with uniformity in the south where the women all don black chadors, clasped to their

necks with one hand for added modesty, giving the impression that one is present at a permanent funeral.

With its open sewers, its hordes of beggars and cripples from the eight-year conflict with Iraq, the south of Tehran is still the powerhouse of the revolution, its unemployed young manning the vigilante forces which attempt to impose Islamic conformity on the north.

As in the former Soviet Union, it is the poor who are paying the biggest price for attempts to introduce a local form of perestroika known as *baz-sazi*. Costs of goods have soared beyond the reach of the estimated two million government employees who earn an average monthly

wage of 270,000 rials (£125). A housing shortage has created vast armies of squatters whose clashes with the security forces often provide the catalyst for wider unrest.

Nothing symbolises the contrasting lifestyles more than the picturesque ski resorts of Shemshak and Dizin, two hours' drive to the north of the capital. The slopes, like the buses, are strictly segregated, but women often ski defiantly without wearing the veil, confident that the lower-class vigilantes who make up the "disciplinary forces" lack the skills, often honed by annual trips to the Swiss or French Alps, to apprehend them.

Most returning exiles have property in north Tehran,

and some are horrified to find the Islamic authorities demanding compound interest (banned by Sharia, the Islamic law) for "overseeing" it since the end of the monarchy. Residents of north Tehran speak of the south as though it was part of another planet, but are aware that without the support of its masses no attempt to overthrow the mullahs could ever hope to succeed.

The north is the home of most diplomats who are frequently harassed by the vigilantes from the south. One European ambassador and his wife recently heard a victim of the Islamic militia being shot outside their villa, while others are tailed by cars containing Islamic vigilantes.

In the south, the fervour of Islamic fundamentalism and militancy has been worn down by the economic hardships of 14 years of revolution. But the spark has not yet died, as those who speak angrily of the day more than 50 years ago when the last Shah's father outlawed the Islamic veil are quick to remind the rare visitor from the West. □ *Nicosia: Tehran, urged by Ankara to help clear up charges that Muslim radicals trained in Iran carried out political murders in Turkey, said it did not support "terrorism". President Rafsanjani said Iran had never allowed any "terrorist" group to use its soil as a base to hit other countries, the official news agency reported. (Reuters)*

Powell denies clash with White House in decision to go early

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

COLIN Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said yesterday that he may step down before his term officially ends this autumn, but denied reports that he would do so because of policy disagreements with the Clinton administration.

The Gulf war hero, 55, has opposed President Clinton's plans to end the ban on homosexuals in the military, and is now being asked to produce still deeper cuts in defence spending and manpower. But he insisted: "I am not in a position of leaving because of unhappiness or disagreement or disappointment." General Powell's second two-year term officially expires on September 30. "I might want to leave a month or so early in order to get my family settled," he said.

A perception that the hugely popular black general was leaving because of unhappiness with the new administration would be damaging to Mr Clinton, who avoided the Vietnam draft and lacks authority on defence issues, and White House officials also insisted that was not the case yesterday. "The rapport between the two leaders is very good," Thomas McLarty, Mr Clinton's chief of staff, said.

General Powell, a key figure in the Reagan and Bush administrations, had ruled out a third term even before President Clinton's election. However, *The New York Times* quoted friends and associates as saying that his decision to retire early had been reinforced by several extraordinary public disagreements between the Pentagon

and the new administration that have torn his loyalties. "There is no question Colin will be confronted repeatedly with having to carry out new policy guidance that may be at odds with his previous public positions," one said.

So vigorous was General Powell's opposition to accepting homosexuals in the military that some commentators said he was verging on insubordination, and *Time* magazine recently claimed he was ready to resign over the issue. Due in large part to Pentagon resistance, Mr Clinton had to accept a six-month delay during which the implications of lifting the ban are being investigated. Mr Clinton has also asked the Pentagon to cut spending by \$60 billion (£42 billion) more than Mr Bush had requested by 1997, and troop strength by 200,000 more than the baseline previously set by General Powell.

After 35 years in the military, the Pentagon's top general is said to have developed a emotional commitment to the armed forces and to feel that Mr Clinton, who never served, does not fully understand his institution. Another associate told *The New York Times*: "Having put his base force in place, what fun will it be for him to come to work and see another part sawed off?" Les Aspin, the defence secretary, has also publicly diverged from General Powell's philosophy that American military force should be used overwhelmingly or not at all, suggesting it could be used in limited doses to punish aggressors.

General Powell is rumoured to have talked about possible jobs with the Carlyle Group, a Washington investment firm headed by his old boss Frank Carlucci, a former defence secretary. He is also said to be considering lucrative book offers and speaking engagements. Or friend suggested he would like to head the American Red Cross or the Ford Foundation.

Bosnia policy, page 1

Clinton takes his case to the people

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Clinton yesterday ordered a 100,000 reduction in the government workforce, slashed federal executive perks, and then flew to Detroit for a nationally televised "town meeting" as he launched an all-out campaign to sell a painful economic recovery plan to the people.

Mr Clinton will formally unveil the plan in his State of the Union address next Wednesday, but by example and exhortation he has already begun vigorously preparing his country for the idea of shared sacrifice now to ensure greater prosperity later.

Such groundwork is vital if his plan for tax increases and deep spending cuts is to have any chance of success. Powerful coalitions have formed to oppose key elements, such as new energy taxes, and Mr Clinton's best hope is to appeal directly to the people.

To mastermind a comprehensive communications strategy Mr Clinton has recreated the "war room", nerve centre of his election campaign. He has brought back his chief strategists, James Carville and Paul Begala, whose sure populist touch has been missed, as well as Stanley Greenberg, his pollster, and Mandy Grunwald, his media adviser.

Mr Clinton is planning to bypass the media, which he regards with suspicion. He has now gone longer than any president since Eisenhower without giving a formal White House press conference. Instead he, Vice-President Al Gore, and other top officials will take their case to the people in events like last night's "town meeting".

Mr Clinton, sitting on a bar stool, was taking questions from audiences in Miami, Seattle and Atlanta linked to Detroit by satellite.

Yesterday's federal cuts were designed to show that the government was doing its bit, though critics contended that the cuts were largely cosmetic. The 2.1 million federal jobs would lose 100,000 jobs over four years and administrative costs would be cut 3 per cent annually.



Family farewell: Jeanne, widow of Arthur Ashe, their daughter Camera at her side, photographing his coffin as it was carried to lie in state at the Virginia governor's mansion in Richmond on Tuesday. Thousands of people queued to pay their

respects to the civil rights activist and former tennis star (AFP reports). Richmond was Ashe's home town, but the outpouring of warmth came from people across America. Ashe, 49, died of AIDS-related pneumonia in New York on Saturday.

NEWS IN BRIEF

FBI hunts Pakistani in CIA murders

New York: An international search is under way for a Pakistani who police and the FBI believe was responsible for killing two CIA employees and wounding three others outside the agency's headquarters in Langley, Virginia, last month (Ben Macintyre writes).

A warrant for Mir Aimal Kansi, 28, was issued on Tuesday. He is on the FBI's ten "most wanted list" and has been charged with capital murder and unlawful flight. The maximum penalty in Virginia for capital murder, when more than one person has been killed, is the electric chair. Officials have provided no motive for the killings. The connection between Mr Kansi and the CIA remains unclear.

"As far as we can determine, there is no definite link between the suspect and the agency," said Michael Young, the Fairfax County police chief.

Israeli police accused of lying

Jerusalem: Brutality and lying are widespread in Israel's police force, according to an internal police report published yesterday.

Police have left a "trail of lies" in covering up misconduct, the police comptroller, Abraham Adnan, said in a 76-page indictment. "Police found guilty of misconduct are rarely punished and in some cases are promoted." The findings have been given to the justice ministry.

State radio said that Israel has backtracked on a plan to guarantee immunity to secret police agents if their prisoners die while they are undergoing the approved forms of interrogation. (AFP, Reuters)

Papal reproof

Khartoum: The Pope has compared the suffering of Sudan's minority Christians to Christ's crucifixion and told the leaders of the country's Islamic government that the state was duty-bound to respect their full freedom. The Pope told President al-Bashir that he had nonetheless come with sentiments of peace and good will. (Reuters)

ANC talks

Johannesburg: Pretoria and the African National Congress have begun a crucial two-day meeting aimed at adding detail to their tentative constitutional agreements. The talks were soured by a dispute over a cache of smuggled arms seized by police from members of the ANC's armed wing.

Lawyer guilty

New York: Marvin Mitchelson, America's most notorious and spendthrift divorce lawyer, has been convicted of tax evasion in a Los Angeles court and faces up to 12 years in prison. Mitchelson, 64, was found guilty of failing to report nearly \$2 million (£1.40 million) in income.

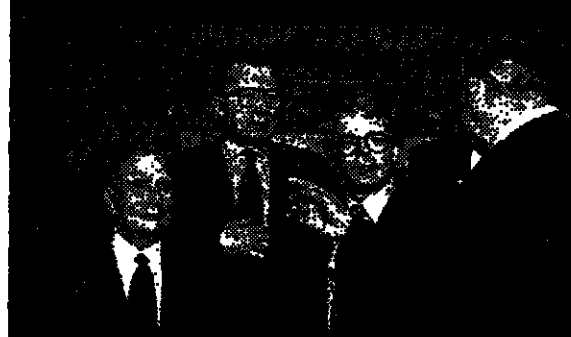
Leader accused

Karachi: The Pakistan government has charged Alaf Hussain, leader of the Mohajir Qaumi Movement, representing Indian immigrants, with murder, kidnapping and violence. He is in London for medical treatment. (Reuters)

Naked pride

Sydney: Andrew Ettingshausen, the Australian rugby league international, won £167,000 in damages for a nude photograph in the women's magazine *HQ*, claiming it ridiculed him. (Reuters)

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Mitterrand urges America to end embargo on Vietnam

FROM REUTERS IN HANOI

PRESIDENT Mitterrand, the first Western head of state to visit Vietnam, urged President Clinton last night to lift the embargo that Washington imposed on Hanoi in 1964.

Mitterrand described it as an anachronism. The Americans extended the embargo to all of Vietnam in 1975, when Hanoi's communists defeated the US-backed Saigon government and reunified the country.

Asked at a news conference after a two-day visit to Hanoi if he had a message for Mr Clinton about the embargo, Mitterrand said: "Just one piece of advice—get rid of the embargo. Period." Mitterrand said on Tuesday France would double its 1992 aid to Vietnam this year. Seven co-operation agreements were signed between the two countries yesterday.

France, which ruled Vietnam for nearly a century until 1954, now wants to close its previous chapter with the Indochinese country and open a new one by helping it to get aid, high-technology transfers and an end to the embargo.

Mitterrand said the nine-year war between Vietnamese nationalists led by Ho Chi Minh and French colonial

forces—which led to the American war in Vietnam—was a mistake. He suggested war might have been avoided if Ho had succeeded in his effort to open negotiations for Vietnam's independence when he came to France in 1946 for talks. "He found no one who was prepared to talk

its past ties with Vietnam, to be the first Western country to help it reintegrate into the world community."

Mitterrand told President Le Duc Anh on Tuesday that France hoped to see Hanoi's economic opening and successful free-market reforms lead to more freedom in other areas. "There cannot be any economic opening without political development. It would be an illusion to think so."

Mitterrand paid silent tribute to the thousands of French soldiers who died in the battle of Dien Bien Phu, where forces led by General Vo Nguyen Giap defeated a key French army unit in 1954, thus bringing an end to colonial rule.

Khmer Rouge radio condemned Mitterrand's visit to Cambodia, saying it violated international law and the principles of human rights because it was aimed at helping Vietnam in its "ongoing invasion".

Two Cambodians were killed yesterday when gunmen on motorcycles brought the Cambodian war back to long-peaceful Siem Reap two days before Mitterrand visits the northwestern town.



Mitterrand: nine-year war was a mistake

Tokyo examines cruel cost of school rules

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

A PREFECTURAL district court yesterday sentenced a teacher to a suspended one-year jail term for negligence after killing a 15-year-old student two years ago when he slammed the school's iron front gates and crushed a girl trying to rush into school a few seconds late.

That tragedy and another a year later, when two pupils died after their teacher locked them in a windowless shed for two days for smoking, have sparked a nationwide debate about excessive discipline in Japanese schools. Given the 22,062 reported cases of school

bullying between April 1991 and March 1992, the education ministry is considering a review of school rules and discipline.

One of the central aims of Japan's education system, which has created one of the world's most regimented and submissive workforces, is to stress the importance of adhering to rules and fitting into the group. Every child is imbued with the mantra: "The nail that sticks out gets hammered down."

Violations of school rules,

which govern homework, physical appearance, manners and even lifestyle at home and on holiday, some prescribed to the tiniest detail, are met with severe, often corporal, punishment. By encouraging conformity above all else, the rules are designed to promote discipline. But an excessive desire for uniformity has begun to have the opposite effect, causing problems involving the bullying of "misfit" students by their peers.

A child who differs in some obvious way from his classmates, who is fatter or thinner, more intelligent or less, risks becoming a victim of *jime* by other students who are driven, many believe, by a desire to enforce the "average" mentality. At best *jime* involves relentless teasing at worst it can push a child to suicide.

One case of *jime* led to a boy of 13 being found dead last month, suffocated in a tightly rolled gym mat in rural Yamagata. His teachers said Yubei Kodama was being teased by his classmates for being brighter than average and did not use the local dialect.

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In celebration of St Valentine: sex on (computer) screen, Last Tango on television, artful attraction...

Virtually better than the real thing

If you are having trouble with your love life, do not despair. Help may be at hand. Scientists in the United States are working to replace sexual intercourse between human beings with "interfacing" between humans and computers.

They call the new technology "cybersex", a broad term that can encompass anything from hot chat on a computer bulletin board to "virtual sex" with sophisticated computer simulation programmes.

With Americans increasingly shunning sexual contact because of the fear of Aids and the complications of real-life relationships, the computer alternative is catching on fast. Eventually, some prophets proclaim, cybersex could be better than the real thing. "It can be compared to a sophisticated Nintendo game — with an adult theme," said Mike Saenz, a cybersex pioneer. "But potentially it could be better than the real thing because it could become the realisation of our fantasies," he said. "If you are the kind of

person who is longing for things you don't have in the world, you could realise your dreams."

Mr Saenz, 33, a former cartoonist for Marvel Comics, runs Reactor Inc in Chicago which markets one of the first interactive cybersex software packages, called Virtual Valerie. Just slip a CD-ROM into your disk-drive and an animated Virtual Valerie will appear on screen and obey your every command — or at least every command for which she has been programmed.

With sales of around 10,000, Virtual Valerie is now the second-best-selling CD-ROM and is stimulating sales of the new type of computer disk-drive, which looks similar to an audio CD but can carry visual data as well as sound.

Mr Saenz is now developing a more sophisticated playmate



Hands on: a simulation of virtual sex...



LOVE BYTES



... from the trendy magazine Future Sex

for the computer buff, to be known as DonnaMatrix. He believes, however, that by the year 2020 the world could have entered the much-anticipated era of the "orgasmatron" — the imaginary simulated sex machine featured in Woody Allen's film *Bananas*.

Last year, cinema-goers saw one futuristic rendition of how

such virtual sex might work in the science fiction film *The Lawnmower Man*. Jobe, the gardener of the title, borrows the virtual reality equipment in a government research laboratory to have sex with his new girlfriend, Marnie. The two lovers strap themselves into complete body suits suspended in the air and, with the help of the computer, try to

engage in sex by remote control.

So far, however, Americans' experience of cybersex has been limited mostly to adults-only computer bulletin boards where subscribers tease each other from afar.

Logging on under a pseudonym to a large commercial bulletin board, a subscriber can invite other users to en-

gage in an intimate typed conversation that is seldom censored unless it involves paedophilia, prostitution or outright violence.

Some use the bulletin boards to experience new sexual activities vicariously before trying them out in the real world, like "Foxy", who admitted on national television this week that she had

experimented with an on-line *ménage à trois* before indulging in the real thing.

When *The Times* logged on to Online America, one of the largest commercial services, it was quickly accosted by a red-blooded 25-year-old man from Massachusetts whose ardour cooled when he discovered that the pseudonymous "Deep Ann" was really a male.

David Kellerman, a New York artist in his early thirties who demonstrated the computer connection, revealed that he once met a young Parisian while foraging through the French Minitel computer system across the transatlantic telephone lines.

He and the woman, Nicole, began to engage in computer sex, typing each other increasingly explicit computer messages. After hooking up on the computer regularly for about six months, Nicole flew to New

York for a blind date — and the two fell in love.

"We had sex first on the computer," Mr Kellerman recalls. "When we met we already knew those little peculiarities that might take months and months to get to in a regular relationship. Despite their computer intimacy, however, he conceded that, fortunately, he also 'really liked her body'."

Lisa Palac, the editor of a trendy new San Francisco-based quarterly called *Future Sex*, believes that computers are bound to impinge more and more on our sex lives.

"We are undergoing a technological revolution that is affecting every one of our lives," she said. "Of course, it's going to affect our emotional lives." She rejects the common assertion that cybersex will isolate people from one another. "You do not need cybersex to put you in that place," she said. "There are already lots of people leading isolated lives."

JAMES BONE

It takes 4 to tango

Lord Longford had not seen the film, but said it sounded horrible. Serge Giraud, a Parisian gynaecologist, sued its makers because the exterior of his house was featured heavily, causing his reputation, he claimed, to be tarnished. Bernardo Bertolucci's once controversial *Last Tango in Paris* may not be as critically esteemed as *The Battleship Potemkin* or *La Règle du Jeu*, but it has made more headlines. Now, 20 years after its cinema release in this country, the film is to be broadcast on terrestrial television.

In 1973, the *Daily Mirror* flew seven of its readers to Paris when it was thought the film might be banned in Britain. They all approved. However, the French film director Jean-Luc Godard did not. He walked out after ten minutes, having seen too much of himself in the character of the film maker played by Jean-Pierre Léaud.

Melvin Bragg "was taken aback by the sex. As somebody who had not seen hardcore pornography, it was an initiation," Kathleen Tynan, who had recently discovered that her husband, Kenneth, was having an affair, watched the film "and cried some more".

So what was *Last Tango*? Pornography? A Marxist attack on the family unit? An



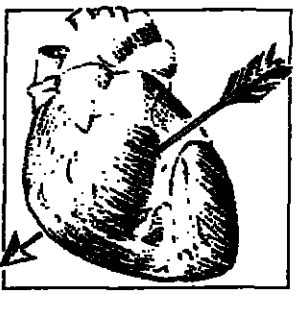
The wild ones: Maria Schneider and Marlon Brando in a scene from *Last Tango in Paris*, the film that shocked the world

illustration of how all sexual relationships are, as Bertolucci explained, condemned? A variation on the series of films by the director which address the Oedipal conflict?

Pauline Kael, the film critic of the *New Yorker*, was certain: *Last Tango's* opening in America was the most important cultural event since the first performance of Stravinsky's *Rite of Spring* in 1913. So it was art.

When *Last Tango* opened in Britain, the nation was warming to cinematic depictions of sex. But David McGillivray, the sex film historian, wrote in 1972 that Britain was "lagging behind the rest of the world, indulging in cheeky exploitation and nothing more".

Last Tango is not cheeky. It is a bleak study of an obsessive, short and anonymous sexual relationship. As for exploitation, *The Sun's* then film critic led the way. He sympathised with "hard porners" in



SCANDAL

New York who had walked out "in disgust at its lack of non-stop lust". Sadly, the critic missed the film's allusions to the haunted paintings of Francis Bacon and *L'Atalante*, the Jean Vigo film of the 1930s.

Edward Shackleton, a member of the Festival of Light, pursued a charge of obscenity against the British censors, and eventually caused a change in the law, although he lost his case, by which films

shown in licensed cinemas could not be sued under the Obscene Publications Act.

In 1976, the Italian government ordered all copies of the film to be burnt, apart from three consigned to the National Film Library, and one which went to the Criminal Museum of the Ministry of Justice and Clergy to sit alongside examples of medieval torture. Bertolucci was given a two-month suspended jail sentence in 1976, and prevented from voting in Italian elections for five years because of the film. He told the court: "Your verdict has condemned ideas to the extermination camp."

Brando, together with Schneider and the Italian distributors, was also given a suspended jail sentence and a £20 fine. "I don't like making movies at the best of times," he said, "but it's never been this bad. I felt violated from the beginning to the end, every day, and every moment."

Channel 4 was unable to screen the film in 1993 because of an Independent Broadcasting Authority ban. It makes its debut on terrestrial television, having previously been shown on Sky Movies, uncut. Broadcasters now judge standards and the Independent Television Commission, the regulatory body, can only make a response afterwards if there are complaints. Bragg approves. "British broadcasters should be as adventurous as film makers."

Today, *Last Tango* seems pretty tame. Similar sexual acts have taken place in mainstream Hollywood films such as *Basic Instinct*, *9½ Weeks*, or *Bitter Moon* (which is almost a re-run of *Last Tango*). Now, with films such as *Reservoir Dogs* and *Candyman*, the censorship debate centres on screen violence.

ROBIN HUNT

● *Last Tango in Paris* Channel 4, Sunday, February 14, 10.30pm

I know what I like

Jo Clarke, a 25-year-old fashion sales manager, says she expects to meet her future husband in an art gallery. People, she says, go to galleries to observe others and to be observed. "It's like going to a party, a place where you can talk to someone without any introduction."

Her art gallery encounters have already led to what she describes as a "night of passion" with a lecturer she met in front of an erotic Japanese etching at the Royal Academy's Hokusai exhibition just over a year ago. They still keep in touch. Ms Clarke is one of the dozens of people who replied when Andrea Cornes, a television documentary producer, advertised for people whose romances had begun in art galleries.

One female respondent recalled making love to a stranger in the plastercast room of the Victoria and Albert Museum just four minutes after their eyes met across the deserted room. "Four weeks later they got married and they remained married for about 15 years until the woman met someone else," at the National Gallery," Ms Cornes says.

Sadly, that woman decided not to appear in the documentary which explores the "pick-up potential" of art galleries and is being screened on St Valentine's day as part of Channel 4's Love Weekend.

"I didn't really realise that it went on but once you're aware of it, you see quite a lot of it," says Ms Cornes, 27, who spent several weeks studying the mating games enacted in London's art galleries. She admits that, were she in search of a boy friend, she might participate herself. "I'd rather meet somebody in an art gallery than a night club. The



ART LOVERS

lighting's better for a start."

Art galleries have traditionally been favoured haunts for those wishing to combine the delights of old masters and new mistresses. They are places to linger and laze, congenial surroundings for



Art galleries: hidden uses

blending aesthetic leanings with amorous yearnings. "The National Gallery has always been a pick-up joint," its director Neil MacGregor admitted last year, when he disclosed that he was considering opening the gallery late one night a week.

For many, an art gallery provides a pleasant and social

ly acceptable environment in which to show themselves off and surreptitiously check out the available talent. Art enthusiasts apparently absorbed by the intricacies of a particular painting are often, in fact, staring at the reflection of the person standing behind them.

Art galleries are class. They are less noisy than wine bars and more select than the one-person meal sections in supermarkets — popular venues for meeting people according to Mary Balfour, the proprietor of the Drawing Down The Moon introduction agency "for thinking people" in Kensington, west London.

She recommends art galleries as meeting places "because people go there in a relaxed mood and there are all sorts of excuses for talking to a stranger". These range from asking for help with the commentary tape-recorders to borrowing catalogues.

It seems, however, that the gallery cruises can reveal more of themselves than shared interests. According to Charles Bentley, a psychoanalyst in London, much can be read into personalities by the paintings in front of which they linger. "The picture is really an advertisement for themselves so there's something there which they are identifying with either consciously or unconsciously," Dr Bentley says.

He is broadly in favour of art galleries as potential meeting places. "It's a subtle gamey thing and you can always pretend you're just going there for the pictures."

SALLY BROMPTON
● Without Walls: Do You Come Here Often? Channel 4, Sunday, February 14, 9pm.
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And then he kissed her ...

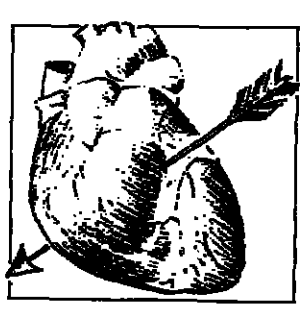
To celebrate St Valentine's day, BBC 2 is screening a "night of love": Channel 4, presumably to underline its naughtier image and superior staying power, offers a whole weekend.

Paradise Road, one of the BBC items, is dedicated to Mills & Boon, foremost purveyors of romance fiction. Subtitled "How to write a Mills & Boon bestseller", the programme is a visual version of M & B's instructional tape, "and then he kissed her..." available to aspiring writers.

Here is a world of heroines who "might live next door to you". They are "young, spirited and inwardly vulnerable". The hero is "a man women dream about...". The blurb for the firm's raunchier "Séduite" titles says: "He should have a good body, a compelling personality and be an achiever... no one dreams of marrying a wimp."

And there's the rub. Even the cleanest-cut jutting-jawed dreamboat, in the end, one more brute male, and, as we know, men are after one thing. For many, given their failure to achieve it, the alternative may be "a top shelf title", often a magazine, but increasingly a book, such as those from Nexus, an imprint of Virgin Publishing.

Like M & B, Nexus has its advisory style sheet and those who fail with the former should maybe cross the literary tracks. In many ways the journey is short: target groups aside, the guides are remarkably similar. The M & B sample text highlights a world of "firm, round breasts", outlined in the "clinging wetness" of her T-shirt soon to be stripped away. At Nexus, hopefuls are urged to emulate



BY THE BOOK

Graham Greene's impression of *The Story of O*: "a pornographic book well-written without a trace of obscenity."

The plotting in both imprints is often very similar and its resolution identical: love/sex conquers all. What an M & B heroine vainly fights her attraction to the apparent bouncer who seems to have ruined her father, her Nexus cousin "a naive peasant girl" is losing her battle against the initially wicked prince who practices "bondage and chastisement" which turns out to be just what her "true sexuality" orders.

As far as actually "doing it", Nexus declares few limits. M & B readers, however, "want to be reassured of the connection between love and sex."

The candid epigraph to the Nexus style sheet reads: "Where there's much there's brass." Nothing so coarse for Mills & Boon, but really, who are they fooling. The bottom line is the same: let's get away from it all. Call it love, call it lust, call it what you will, oh Valentine, what literary crimes are committed in thy name.

JONATHAN GREEN
● *Paradise Road*: BBC2, Saturday, February 13, 8.15pm

TIMES READER COMMEMORATIVE TRAVEL OFFER

Salute to the Dambusters

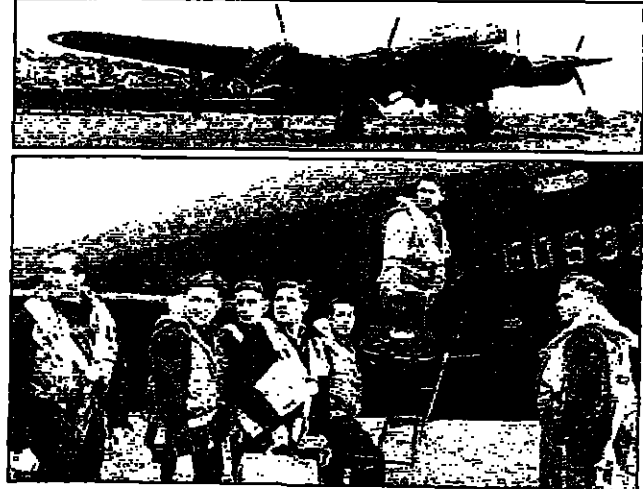
On the night of May 16, 1943, 133 British airmen in 19 Lancaster bombers led by Wing Commander Guy Gibson, aged 25, of 617 Squadron, left Scampton airfield, Lincolnshire, on a daring mission to destroy the heavily defended Möhne and Eder dams in Nazi Germany's industrial Ruhr.

The weapons they carried were "bouncing" bombs, invented by (Sir) Neville Barnes Wallis. Both dams were hit, releasing a flood of 300 million gallons of water and seriously hampering the Nazi war effort. The price was high: eight aircraft were shot down and 53 crew died.

Fifty years on, The Imperial War Museum in London is commemorating the heroic Dam busters. And as part of the anniversary, Scandinavian Seaways, in association with the museum, has organised a seven-day tour, April 15-21, to the Möhne and Eder areas, and the Allied war graves.

Times readers are invited to join this historic tour, which will be hosted by historian Brad King, of The Imperial War Museum, and Alan Cooper, the author of two books about the Dambusters. The tour starts with a reception at the museum and a preview of the "Dambusters" exhibition, which opens on May 11.

Alternatively, you can join the tour at Harwich. THE ITINERARY Thursday, April 15 Meet 9.30am at The Imperial War Museum. Depart at noon for Harwich to join the me Hamburg. Friday Coach to the four-star Hotel Dorint at Neheim in the Möhne region for two nights. Saturday Full-day guided tour of the Möhne dam region. Sunday Coach, via the Eder and Sorpe dams, to the Holiday Inn, Cologne (alternatively, Düssel-



Before the raid: Guy Gibson (on steps) and Lancaster crew

dorf, for an overnight stay. Monday Free for sightseeing in Cologne, or tour of the Rheinburg and Reichswald war graves. Tuesday Return to Hamburg to board the ms Hamburg. Wednesday Arrive Harwich 1pm.

THE COST Included in the price of £349 per person from London (£329 from

Harwich): four-berth cabin accommodation aboard ms Hamburg, with smorgasbord dinners and buffet breakfasts (two-berth supplement £42 per person); two nights at a Holiday Inn; visits to the Rheinburg and Reichswald cemeteries; all coach transfers. Not included: optional travel insurance (£6 per person).

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... and the chemistry of love, from high-infatuation addiction to the opiate of enduring affection

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways

While love may not make the world go round, it is certainly beginning to spin the wheels of academe.

Studies on the scientific basis of love are proliferating like rabbits in rut. Once, romance was the stuff of novels, with a nod in the direction of Arthur and Guinevere; now, everybody from anthropologists to organic chemists is getting in on the act.

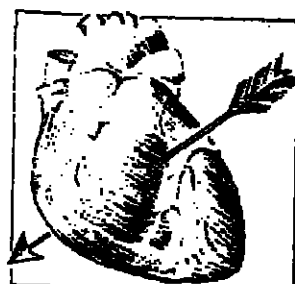
They are trying to explain not only why we fall in love, but how. Listen to the more confident among them and you might believe that a glimpse across a crowded room triggers a cascade of chemical cues that quickly spell infatuation. The ritual of gesture, smile, touch, and smell set in motion a relationship that may be lifelong or merely transitory; as sublime as a sonnet or as banal as the messages on Sunday's Valentine cards.

Anthropologists are now persuaded that romantic love is a universal as well as a marmalade-scented thing. Until recently, there was a tendency to see it as a product of Western medieval culture, aped elsewhere only by elites. But at last December's meeting of the American Anthropological Association, the first-ever session on the anthropology of romance heard that in a survey of 166 cultures, romantic love had been found in 147 of them.

What of the other 19? Were they followers of the "wham, bam, thank you ma'am" school of wooing? Not very likely, said Dr William Jankowiak of the University of Nevada, who organised the session. The odds are that the anthropologists who studied them were too dim to recognise romance when they saw it, though Dr Jankowiak did not put it quite so crudely.

If romance is universal, it follows that it must be the expression of biological traits shared by all human beings, and probably by some animals as well. The effort to decipher this romantic code has now been joined. Dr Helen Fisher, an anthropologist from the American Museum of Natural History, provides an enjoyable romp through the evidence in her book *Anatomy of Love*, published here by Simon & Schuster.

Love begins, she says, in the subtle cues of body language, expressed almost unconsciously. David Givens (yet another



BODY LANGUAGE

anthropologist) and Timothy Perper, a biologist, spent months in American cocktail lounges watching young men and women picking each other up. Actually, most of us have done this, but Drs Givens and Perper were clever enough to get a research grant first.

Courting starts, they found, with the "attention getting" phase. Men stand tall, light their cigarettes elaborately us-

ing their whole bodies, swag a little and laugh a lot. Women preen, smile, shift and sway. They tilt their heads, look coy, giggle, raise their eyebrows, flick their tongues, lick their upper lips, blush and hide their faces. (So that is what the Princess of Wales is doing: she is trying to make us fall in love with her.)

Next, say Drs Givens and Perper, comes "grooming talk", when many an incipient affair hits the rocks. A high-pitched, mellifluous "hello" spells interest: a perfunctory "hi" does not.

And then — a key moment, this — there is the touch. The woman makes momentary contact with the man's arm, shoulder, or wrist. If he recoils, the party's over. If he responds with a touch of his own, both parties soon move to face each other and unconsciously mirror each other's movements until they are in synchrony. The more perfect this mutual mimicking becomes, the greater the chance that the two will leave the bar together. The most interesting feature of the "five-part pickup", as Dr Fisher calls it, is the equality of roles. Traditionally it is believed to be men who take the initiative, but in practice it is the women who make the first touch. Only later does the male take over: as one woman told Dr Perper, "At some point the man should get the hint and take it from there."

So much for the anthropology: what about the chemistry? The fragrance industry would like us to believe that the odour of musk or roses, bottled and sold at astonishing prices, triggers ungovernable passion. Years ago, the Paris perfumiers Guerlain claimed to be working on a scent designed to smell like women's silk underwear. But the Holy Grail remains the long-sought human pheromone, a natural chemical believed to carry potent signals of mutual attraction and desire.

Plenty of pheromones have been found in other creatures: 250 insects at least, some of which will fly miles on the merest whiff. Last year an American company, Erox, claimed to have isolated human pheromones from skin. They said experiments showed that some elicited responses only in women, while others worked only for men, but neither apparently caused an immediate and irresistible urge to tear off your clothes.

The effect, said Elizabeth Huckaby, a student volunteer who tried sniffing the elixir, was to feel "calmer... better... happier... uplifted". Unfortunately, Erox are so intent on patenting this wonder-scent they have not published any details, and nobody has been able to repeat the experiments.

Most psychologists believe that the role of pheromones in human affairs may have been exaggerated, in any case. The sense of smell does have an astonishing capacity to recall past events, as witness Proust and his *madeleine*, but unlike bloodhounds we are not led by our noses.

There is, though, the curious case of the synchronous nuns. It may seem a fair leap from sex attractants to communities of women who menstruate in time with one another, but the hardest evidence of chemical messengers comes from such groups. The experiments show that women brought together in such circumstances develop synchrony in three to four

menstrual cycles, and that male sweat disrupts the process. In separate experiments, women with irregular cycles became more regular when exposed to male sweat.

Something is clearly going on, but exactly what remains unclear. The same might be said of the speculations about the chemical changes in the brain that, some say, accompany the process of falling in love. Michael Liebowitz of the New York Psychiatric Institute believes that the key to infatuation lies in a brain chemical called phenylethylamine, or PEA, stimulated by attraction.

People who crave emotional relationships but are incapable of keeping them going appear to be addicted to the "high" achieved by PEA. This might be the basis of "falling in love with love" as the song puts it. The novelist Barbara Pym, when a young woman in Oxford, regularly fell in love with distant dons whom she had hardly met. Dr Liebowitz

would doubtless have diagnosed her as a PEA junkie.

But nobody can remain infatuated for ever. Dr Liebowitz links this with a growing tolerance to the effects of PEA, or the inability of the body to continue producing it. Among those of us who mature into longer-term relationships, he believes another mechanism operates.

Each partner, according to this theory, has the ability to stimulate in the other the production of the body's natural opiates, the endorphins, which produce a sense of stability and tranquillity. Not all married couples seem to fit this pattern, and experimental evidence is lacking. But that has never been much of an inhibition to psychiatrists.

In any case, the chemicals can only explain the how, not the why. The ideal of romantic love holds that the loved one is

unique, the only individual in the world for whom one could feel such an overwhelming sentiment. Dr Johnson, so often the debunker of sentimentalism, had an answer to that. Might there not, ventured Boswell, be at least fifty women with whom a man might be equally happy? "Ay, Sir, fifty thousand," he replied.

The fact remains, however, that we do find some people more attractive than others. Like often binds to like — the biologists' name is "assortative mating" — but there is also the attraction of opposites. A few simple rules apply: everybody likes a good complexion and cleanliness, and men generally prefer plump and wide-bodied women to the fashionably thin.

Looking at 37 different people, psychologist David Buss discovered to nobody's great surprise that men everywhere favour young, good-looking, gutsy women, while women go for men with property or

money. 'Twas ever thus.

Sexologists suggest that we all carry in our heads a concept of our ideal partner, a "love map", in the words of John Money, of Johns Hopkins University. This comes from our childhood, our background, perhaps even our genes. Nobody we meet ever provides a perfect match, but some come closer than others, and that determines who it is we fall in love with. Women whose love map has somehow become imprinted with a pair of spectacles will make passes at men who wear glasses, a comfort to the myopic.

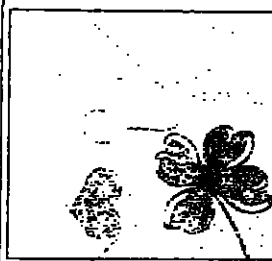
Some people seem to confirm this theory by repeatedly marrying the same kind of partner. It is only a theory, though, like most of what is going on in this most absorbing of subjects. Mills & Boon are not about to yield their place to the *Journal of Romantic Science*.

NIGEL HAWKES

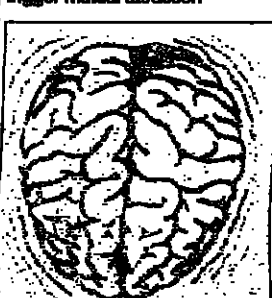


Amour the merrier: traditionally men are believed to take the initiative, but in practice it is women who usually make the first touch

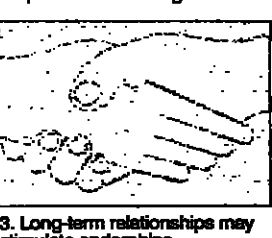
SHAKEN AND STIRRED: THE LOVE COCKTAIL



1. Natural sex-attractants known as pheromones may help to trigger mutual attraction

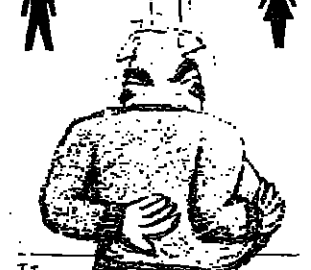


2. Infatuation, exhilaration and elation (characteristics of 'falling in love') may be linked to brain chemicals that give an amphetamine-like 'high'



3. Long-term relationships may stimulate endorphins, the natural opiates, which partners can trigger off in one another. They are similar to morphine so are habit-forming

Concerning the breast



A problem shared...

THE couvade syndrome is a condition in which a man experiences physical distress during the time of his wife's pregnancy or delivery.

The condition, well described by Dr David Enoch and Sir William Trehown in their book *Uncommon Psychiatric Syndromes*, has always been thought of as a psychogenic disorder of interest but neither particularly rare (despite the title of the book) nor praiseworthy. It was seen merely as evidence of a neurotic personality.

The symptoms suffered by loving, sharing husbands — or, as earlier psychologists would suggest, the henpecked partners of tyrannical women — are legion. During the 1939-45 war, husbands reported sick, although thousands of miles away from home, with abdominal pain, vomiting and diarrhoea, problems which disappeared once it was known that the woman had been delivered.

In some cases a husband's symptoms precede the diagnosis of the woman's pregnancy. Doctors have attributed this to the unconscious observation by the man of small changes in his consort's appearance and behaviour.

When, in the 17th century,

BREAST cancer has been feared down the ages. The *Chambers Encyclopaedia* of 1751 described it "a most dread disease, particularly of the celibate and barren". This week the National Cancer Institute in the United States reported that lesbians were two to three times more likely to develop breast cancer than heterosexual women.

There is no immediately obvious single explanation for the difference. The lesbian stereotype, which is an unfair representation of the majority, would seem to suffer from a surfeit of androgens rather than oestrogens. The Victorians attributed health-giving powers to semen, and were convinced that its absorption ensured a healthy complexion, but they were never so bold as to suggest that it had more important qualities as a prophylaxis against cancer.

Sexual behaviour may exert a small influence on the pathology of the breast. There is a slightly higher incidence of cancer in the left rather than the right breast; this finding has been attributed to the right-handedness of most men who, in consequence, are more likely to fondle their partner's left breast when making love. It is possible that breasts play a more important role in lesbian love-making and are more traumatised as a result.

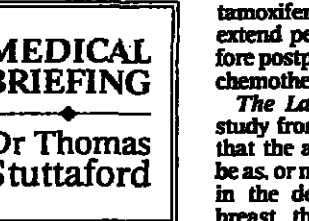
Breast cancer has seldom been out of the news this month. Those who like to feel that a healthy, natural life will bring its own rewards should have been cheered by reading the conclusions of Cancer Research Campaign scientists. The researchers have advanced the theory that the reason for the lower levels of cancer of the breast now found

Francis Bacon wrote of the couvade syndrome, his account was non-judgmental, but Marco Polo had a different approach, one that would delight modern women. He noticed that in the East, men suffered the discomforts of pregnancy, and the pangs of childbirth, with the women. He thought that this was

highly commendable, right and proper.

Emancipated women in America have done better than Marco Polo. Not content with words, they have taken steps to stimulate the couvade syndrome in men who lack the necessary empathy with their partners to share their travail.

in Scottish women date from their wartime adolescence. The fatty rich diets of today were impossible when butter, margarine and lard were strictly rationed. As a result, fresh fruit and vegetables formed a greater part of the diet, which was also carefully controlled by the Ministry of Food so that everybody received nutritious and vitamin-rich, if boring, fare. This was



MEDICAL BRIEFING
Dr Thomas Stuttford

apparently more true in Scotland than elsewhere as the Scots were poorer and could not afford the calorie-rich titbits available, off the ration, to the English.

There may be some doubt about the relative poverty of the Scots but there is no question that a diet rich in the antioxidant vitamins — beta-carotene, vitamin C and vitamin E — which are found in fresh fruit, vegetables and wheatgerm oil, is beneficial and may reduce the risk of cancer.

Both a high-fat diet and obesity have been linked to a greater likelihood of developing cancer of the breast. Swedish doctors working at the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm have now shown that women with oestrogen-dependent tumours are less likely to suffer from the disease spreading through the body, and are more likely to remain tumour

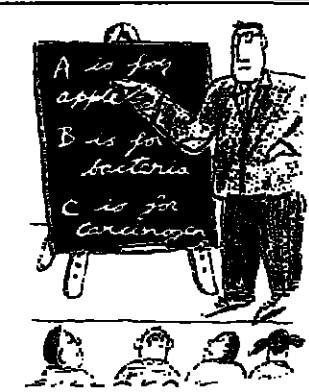
free if, after the initial treatment, they follow a low-fat diet. There is good news, too, for those women who have not relied on a carefully selected menu to control oestrogen dependent tumours but have been taking tamoxifen, a drug which has made a marked difference to survival time. A new drug, Letarone, is now available which can be prescribed once the patient's body has become resistant to the anti-oestrogen effect of tamoxifen. Letarone has been shown to extend periods of remission and therefore postpone the need in some cases for chemotherapy.

The *Lancet* has recently reported a study from Brazil which has suggested that the age of the last pregnancy may be as, or more, important as a risk factor in the development of cancer of the breast than the timing of the first pregnancy, which has always been stressed previously. The research showed that women who had babies after the age of 35 appeared to be at greater risk of developing cancer of the breast. This finding needs to be confirmed, and in any case should not unduly alarm older mothers as the statistical increase in risk is small.

Obesity, a high-fat diet, over-indulgence in general, lesbianism, a late first pregnancy, possibly a very late pregnancy... all these may be risk factors, but the most important one must remain a strong family history. Early diagnosis still depends on patients and doctors being alert to the earliest signs of the disease and this, coupled with regular mammography for those in their forties and fifties, or earlier if they have a close relative with the disease, offer the best hope of a cure.

that he may experience the discomforts, and joys, of being heavily pregnant.

The artificial belly induced in many cases a form of couvade syndrome, some men developed raised blood pressure, others frequency of urination, and, as would be expected, breathlessness and back ache.



Apple juice in the clear

WHEN young boys stole apples rather than cars they soon learnt that there was a limit to the number they could eat before they developed abdominal pain and diarrhoea. This natural safeguard makes poisoning by the mould *Penicillium* on rotting apples, clinically unlikely.

Patulin has been tried, unsuccessfully, as an antibiotic in the treatment of the common cold but toxicity studies in rats have shown that in high doses it can cause cancers and birth defects. Parents have, not unnaturally, been worried lest children, having drunk apple juice, end up suffering from some fatal poisoning.

But, although no safe limit has been determined for humans, parents can relax. There is no evidence that humans and rats respond to patulin in the same way. No case of patulin poisoning has ever been recorded in either humans or rats after taking the fungus by mouth. A child will have had to drink gallons of contaminated apple juice in order to achieve comparable doses to those given to rats by injection which caused the alarming side-effects.

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TRAVEL NEWS

Yellow fever returns to Kenya

More than 500 have died in Kenya's worst outbreak of yellow fever. Although the first death was reported in October, it is only in the last week that the full extent of the new epidemic has become known.

The last recorded outbreak in Kenya was in 1943, and it had been hoped that it had been eradicated. In this outbreak, the disease has been confined to parts of the Rift Valley, but there are fears that it could spread to the cities.

Experts from the World Health Organisation have flown in with 600,000 doses of vaccine to help with mass immunisation. It is hoped that 80,000 people thought to be most at risk will be vaccinated within the next week.

By last week, 63 had died, but now Kenyan health authorities claim that at least 500 have died and have appealed for an emergency programme to discover the outbreak's cause and how it can be controlled.

The Kerio Valley, in which the outbreak is centred, is particularly hot, and is not one of the most popular tourist areas, although many experienced travellers regard it as "unspoilt" Kenya.

Dr Eric Lefevre, of the Thomas Cook health centre in London, urged all British visitors to Kenya to be vaccinated. "We have always recommended yellow fever vaccination and this outbreak simply underlines its importance," he said.

HARVEY ELLIOTT

The government is to be asked to examine the travel insurance industry amid claims that travellers are being duped into buying inappropriate policies. Worse, many are going without insurance altogether. Politicians and industry experts have expressed their concern about the issue, which has been highlighted by the introduction of EC rules.

Many big travel agents are earning commissions of up to 40 per cent by insisting that travellers who buy their discount packages must also buy a travel policy. This, together with a new EC directive under which travel agents must point out the need for insurance, has contributed to a push on sales of policies.

Michael Sutton, the managing director of Columbus Travel Insurance, which sells 80 per cent of its policies direct to the public, says: "Many insurance premiums are unnecessarily high in order to provide clients with reassuring but

Over-insured and under-protected

Peter Victor reports on a growing list of complaints about inappropriate travel cover

unnecessary levels of cover. Travel insurance companies do this to make their policies more attractive, even though it is, in reality, little more than window-dressing."

With Columbus two people would pay £64 cover for 31 days in America or £54 for the same length of time in Australia. With a travel agent they might pay more than £120.

Increasingly when people do need to claim, either while abroad or when they return from holidays, insurance companies are reluctant to provide emergency services or pay out. As a result of confusion, disillusionment or simple unwillingness to pay exorbitant premiums,

Mr Sutton says, half of all business people and 30 per cent of holidaymakers travel uninsured.

Many do so in the mistaken belief that they have free cover from their credit card companies or Post Office form E111. But credit card cover applies only while actually travelling and form E111 entitles holders to free or subsidised medical care only in certain countries.

The Consumers' Association recommends that people insist on



Dossier: Lynne Jones

seeing the policy and read the small print before accepting holiday insurance. It also says they should shop around for companies that do not compel travellers to buy an associated travel policy.

Sir Robert McCrindle, a former Conservative MP and member of the parliamentary aviation committee and now a consultant to the travel industry, says that while he prefers people to have travel insurance he regrets the growing tendency for

policies to become the basis of discounting. Lynne Jones, the Labour MP for Birmingham-Selly Oak, is compiling a dossier on insurance problems and plans to raise the matter in the House of Commons. She launched an investigation into travel insurance cover following the death of one of her constituents after an overseas holiday.

"There have also been examples of too much treatment being offered," Mrs Jones says. "This seems to be the case particularly in Spain, where holidaymakers complain that they have been forced to undergo unnecessary operations in private clinics operating for profit."

"The government ought to be

doing something about it. People throughout the country who take a policy assume it will cover them. They also assume they're not being ripped off by their friendly travel agent. It seems that both of these assumptions are wrong."

The Association of British Insurers says: "People have a number of avenues if they are unhappy about the cost or the cover provided; they can complain direct to the company, they can refer to the insurance ombudsman or, if they get no satisfaction, they can take legal action."

The Association of British Travel Agents says it has done no research into insurance policies or premiums. "Some independent travel agents would say the bigger ones are unfairly using premiums to discount their holidays. The larger ones would say while their policies are more expensive, they offer better cover. I don't know that it is possible for ABTA to express a view."

The high price of being in the swing

Europe's golf tour takes in some unexpected venues, such as Dubai, but staying on course can be expensive

Europe's professional golfers will begin the fourth leg of their ten-month-long annual round of 40 tournaments, from Singapore to St Andrews, Harvey Elliott writes.

The ever-growing European tour has already been to the Gulf state of Dubai and Singapore, much to the chagrin of the tour organisers in Australia and the Far East, who believe that Europe is encroaching on their "patch". The PGA European Tour maintains, however, that its circuit must follow the sun and sponsors' money.

Only a handful of the 350 PGA members who take part in the tour are likely to make large amounts of money from

the competitions, despite more than £24 million worth of prizes being available for those who get on the leaderboard.

While the likes of Nick Faldo and Seve Ballesteros may count their earnings in seven figures, and the top 100 can each expect to win more than £50,000 in prize money, some professionals are lucky to make more than a few thousand pounds. Unless they can persuade a sponsor to back them, or obtain a cheap charter ticket, they have to pay their own way to the tournaments from their winnings.

The total of first-prize money available this year is £3,137,024, but it is only possible to win that sort of amount if you are lucky enough to be invited to all the

events on the tour. Even then, winning everything is an unrealistic goal for any player. Yet many do attempt to perform at least 70 per cent of the tournaments.

Assuming, therefore, that one golfer entered every tournament — or that a dedicated spectator followed him around from one to the other — we asked Thomas Cook to work out how much it would cost to fly scheduled business class, where possible, around the circuit. It came to £11,480, and that is before accommodation and any expenses that may accrue. For the thousands of amateurs who this weekend will be bidding for the £50 club sweep and dreaming of turning professional, it is a sobering thought.

TAKING A FLYER WITH THE GOLF TOUR

Date	Tournament	First Prize	Prize Money	Fees
Jan 16-17	Masters Tournament, Augusta, Georgia	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$25,000
Jan 28-30	Robert Trent Jones II, Dallas, Texas	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Feb 4-7	Johnnie Walker Classic, St Andrews, Scotland	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Feb 11-14	Tournoi de la Ville de Paris, Paris, France	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Feb 18-21	Moroccan Open, Golf de France, Morocco	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Feb 25-28	Turkish Airlines Open, Istanbul, Turkey	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Mar 4-7	Mediterranean Open, St Barts, France	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Mar 11-14	Turkish Airlines Open, Istanbul, Turkey	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Mar 18-21	Portuguese Open, Vila Real, Portugal	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Apr 4-7	Lyon Open, Villefranche, France	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Apr 11-14	Rome Masters, Castelgondolfo, Italy	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Apr 18-21	Helsinki Open, Oulunsalo, Finland	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Apr 25-28	Canada Open, Canoe, Canada	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
May 4-7	Benson and Hedges International Open, St Albans, England	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
May 11-14	Palacio Real Open, Madrid, Spain	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
May 18-21	Lucas Marshall British Open, Luton, England	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
May 25-28	Vulvo PGA Championship, Mexico	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
June 4-7	Dunhill British Masters, Woking, England	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
June 11-14	Carroll's Irish Open, Mullagh, Ireland	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
June 18-21	Jersey European Airways Open, St Helier, Jersey	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
June 25-28	Espresso French Open, La Mancelle, France	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
July 4-7	Spain Open, Monte Real, Spain	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
July 11-14	Ball's Scottish Open, Glasgow, Scotland	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
July 18-21	Open Championship, Royal St Andrews, Scotland	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$25,000
July 25-28	Holland Open, Noordoostpolder, Holland	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Aug 4-7	Swedish Open, Solna, Sweden	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Aug 11-14	Austrian Open, St. Pölten, Austria	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Aug 18-21	Barclay's English Open, Forest of Arden, England	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Aug 25-28	Volvo German Open, Hamburg, Germany	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Sept 4-7	Clarke European Masters, Clonsilla, Spain	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Sept 11-14	GA European Open, East Sussex, England	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Sept 18-21	Lakeland Trophy, Lake Umbagog, New Hampshire, USA	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Sept 25-28	Mercedes-Benz Masters, Wiesbaden, Germany	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Oct 4-7	Prudential Open, Ballynagall, Ireland	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Oct 11-14	Alfred Dunhill Championship, St Andrews, Scotland	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$25,000
Oct 18-21	Walter Hagey PGA Championship, St Andrews, Scotland	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$25,000
Oct 25-28	Walter Hagey PGA Championship, St Andrews, Scotland	\$250,000	\$250,000	\$25,000
Nov 4-7	Volvo Masters, Wiesbaden, Germany	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Nov 11-14	Volvo Masters, Wiesbaden, Germany	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Nov 18-21	Volvo Masters, Wiesbaden, Germany	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000
Nov 25-28	Volvo Masters, Wiesbaden, Germany	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$10,000

Total first prize money: £3,137,024. Total prize money: £3,137,024. 1992 figures. *£1,000,000 per annum. £100,000 per annum.

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Itinerary in Brief

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Departure Dates & Prices

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 £995.00 per person in a twin cabin on Lower Deck. Single supplement £350.00
 *these operate in the reverse direction and include one extra night in St Petersburg at £25 pp.
 Cabin Supplements: Upper Deck £220, Middle Deck £150, Main Deck £95

Included: on-board, 11 nights on the MV Kirov, full board, excursions, Cruise Director/Local guides. Not included: insurance, visa procurement, tips. All prices are subject to change.

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Itinerary in Brief

Cruise into the Moscow/Volga Canal to Uglich, the Rybinsk Reservoir, Gorky, Kizhi Island in Lake Onega, Lodeynoye Pole, Valaam Island in Lake Ladoga and on to St Petersburg.

Departure Dates & Prices

June 27 and July 11 £795.00 per person in a Lower Deck Cabin
 June 20* and July 4* £745.00 per person in a Lower Deck Cabin
 *these departures operate in the reverse direction with only a short time in St Petersburg

Cabin Supplements: Upper Deck £190, Middle Deck £120, Main Deck £65

Included: return air travel, 7 nights on the MV Kirov, full board, excursions, services of a Cruise Director/Local guides. Not included: travel insurance, visa procurement, tips. All prices are subject to change.

Dubai is on course for sport

THE prime minister of Dubai, Sheikh Maktoum bin Rashid al-Maktoum, is determined to make the Emirate a world-class centre for sport, Alia Ramsey writes.

The Dubai Desert Classic held Europe's top golfers playing for a £66,660 first prize at the Emirates Golf Club last month, while some of the best players from the tennis tour were in action at the Dubai Duty Free/BMW Open.

The events are part of a growing number of tournaments, including snooker, rugby sevens, powerboating, horse racing and karate, which in four years have made Dubai the sports capital of the Gulf.

The government investment in sports facilities is growing each year, with two yacht clubs and a football stadium and sports centre recently opened. After the success of the Emirates Club, an 18-hole course has just opened at the Creek Golf Club and Marina, and there are plans for a third course, while there is also talk of a turf racetrack being built to complement horse racing's existing sand track.

"The whole point is to make people aware of the area and to overcome the hostile image of the Middle East," George Atkinson, the Desert Classic tournament organiser, says.

Money is no object in Dubai. The sheikhs' wealth allows development at a tremendous pace. In 1986, the Emirates Golf Club was no more than an idea, but two years later it was earning prize money from PGA European Tour players as the best on the circuit.

Dubai is one of seven in the United Arab Emirates, but through sport, is rapidly becoming the best known. It has always had a "trade-based, rather than oil-based, economy and with its cosmopolitan population, has more readily accommodated the vagaries of other cultures into its Muslim laws. As one official says: "We want people to respect our culture; we have mosques if you want to pray and we

The Americans go there in winter and the local tourist board is persuading the British to visit in summer, David Churchill reports

Heading for the heat of Mexico

When the Prince of Wales arrives in Mexico on Sunday for an official visit, he could be in the vanguard of a revival of interest in a country that seemed to have passed the British by. A decade ago, British Airways stopped direct flights to Mexico City because of lack of demand, and while several specialist tour operators have maintained holiday programmes in some of the country's more popular areas, there has been little interest in developing Mexico as a tourist destination from Britain.

Now this is changing. From March 28, British Airways is introducing a three-weekly, non-stop service from London to Mexico City instead of forcing passengers to travel via Houston or Chicago.

Mike Batt, the BA regional general manager for the Americas, says: "Mexico City is growing fast. The economic climate has made it possible for us to restore this link."

Thomson Holidays, Britain's biggest tour operator, has published its first brochure solely for Mexico. Thomson this year plans to send about 8,000 Britons to Mexico — only a few thousand fewer than it will fly to Jamaica.

Mexico's tourism office in London says that enquiries are running "about 50 per cent higher" than a year ago, and should lead to a 20 per cent increase over the 33,000 British visitors last year. According to



Ceremonial Mayan pyramid: the spectacular 100ft Temple of Kulkulkan at Chichén Itzá which is close to Cancún, the resort on the Caribbean

the Thomas Cook travel group, Mexico is likely "to become one of the growth destinations of the mid-1990s".

Steve Garley, the Thomson travel programme director, believes Mexico's growing tourist appeal may mirror the development of Jamaica's tourism. "The Americans see Mexico, and Jamaica, as a winter market so there have been a lot of good hotels built to meet their needs," he says. "They lie empty in the summer when the British want to go on holiday."

Mexico, like Spain, has recognised that tourists are becoming more sophisticated about the environment, and Acapulco has raised its standards in the same way as Benidorm. That does not mean that Mexico is quite there yet. At times, Mexico City has severe pollution problems and low air quality. The infrastructure is, however, improving, helped by the determination of President Salinas de Gortari to reform the economy on sound fiscal lines.

What is attracting British tourists is the exotic nature of Mexico. It looks, feels and tastes different from the other Caribbean destinations with which it is so often linked. Mexico has a history of ancient civilisations that offer culture, but it also has beaches and sophisticated cities.

Given the historical links with its Spanish conquerors, it is perhaps ironic that Lunn Poly — the travel agency

catering for the mass-appeal market — believes Mexico is a "sleeper" in travel terms. "It is like Spain was 20 years ago," says Nicole Gardner, a Lunn Poly marketing executive.

Unlike Spain, Mexico is a real long-haul destination. BA's non-stop flights on the new Boeing 747-400 jumbos, for example, will take 11½ hours and charter flights on smaller aircraft will take longer if they need stops to refuel.

Some holidays, such as Kuoni's packages to the island of Cancún off the northeast coast, include flights via scheduled services to Houston which makes the journey several hours longer than non-stop flights.

Prices are competitive with other Caribbean and North American long-haul destinations, especially because hotels

are keen to fill empty beds during the summer months. Thomson offers a room-only holiday at the two-star Club Verano Hotel in Cancún for £599 a person in August for 14 nights. At the Playa del Carmen resort at nearby Cozumel, the Diamond Village resort offers full board with unlimited drinks for £1,049 a person for 14 nights in early July. Kuoni holidays in the

same resorts start at £548 for seven nights in August. Cancún used to be virtually uninhabited jungle and both it and Cozumel, now purpose-built resorts on the edge of the Caribbean sea, are attractive to those wanting a beach holiday. The important Mayan ruins of Chichén Itzá, Tulum and Cobá are close by.

On Mexico's Pacific coast, the most popular resorts are at

Puerto Vallarta and Acapulco. BA Holidays offers a two-centre holiday, including seven nights on an escorted tour around Mexico City and cultural sites, and seven nights in Acapulco for £1,160 a person. The British Airways APEX economy fare is £646 for travel before June 15 and £688 afterwards, although cheaper fares will be on offer when the non-stop flights start.

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All steamed up with BR

One organisation which welcomes the onset of rail privatisation, against the general trend, is the Great Scottish & Western Railway Company, which operates the Royal Scotsman service.

Its management has been at what it calls "constant war" with British Rail over "bewilderingly small issues". Fergus Hobbs, chairman of Great Scottish, says: "We are very excited at the prospective changes that could arise from privatisation and look forward to the day we can achieve them."

The Scotsman, refurbished carriages with wood panelling and Edwardian-style furnishings, cruises little-used railway lines through the mountains and glens of the Scottish highlands. The tour passes historic estates, castles and local places of interest. It also runs between London and Edinburgh in April. Sleeper cabins have en suite bathrooms and the trains stop at night so passengers can sleep undisturbed. Scottish tours start at £1,450 per person for three days, rising to £3,300 each for the Christmas and New Year trips.

The company claims that it will be able to provide more affordable holidays after privatisation, when it can employ its own drivers and buy its own engine for use on the service.

The company running the Royal Scotsman says that it is looking forward to privatisation



The Royal Scotsman: use of a steam engine is restricted

At present it has to use British Rail's drivers, who must return to their depots every night, and an engine provided by British Rail. "Par-

adoxically, privatisation would allow the company to pay their drivers more," Great Scottish says.

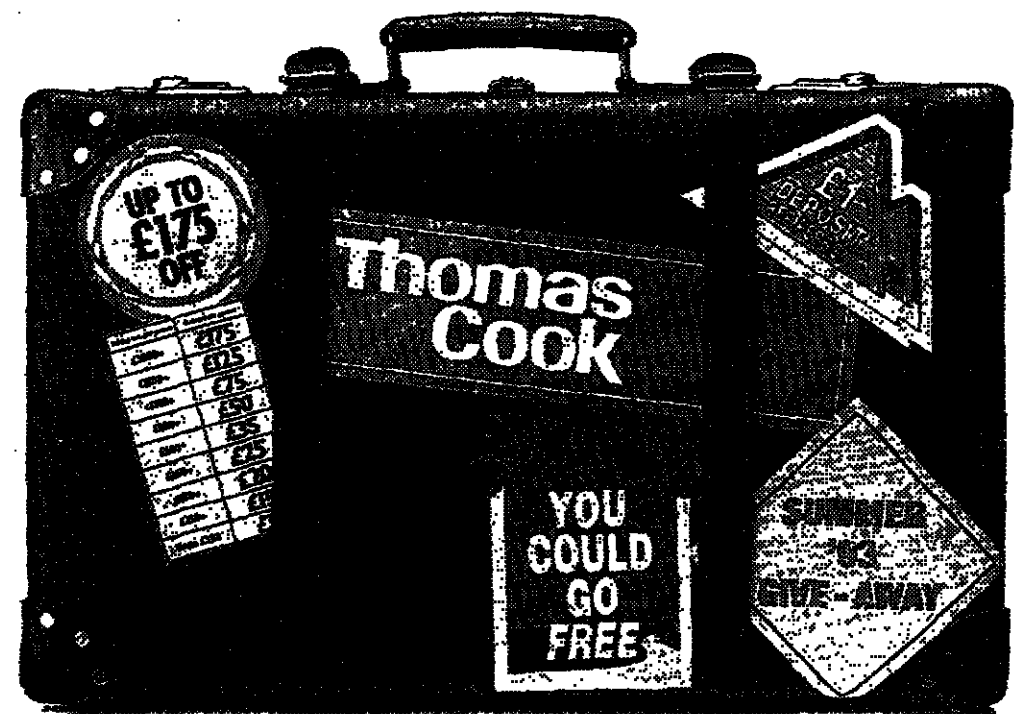
"In addition, we are not at the moment allowed to paint a locomotive in our own colours. All this could change with privatisation, which would allow purchase of our own locomotive decked out in matching Royal Scotsman livery, thus considerably improving presentation to guests and the public."

At present the Scotsman is allowed to use a 4-6-0 steam locomotive only for some journeys along the east coast of Scotland. For most of its journeys the carriages are pulled by a class 37 diesel.

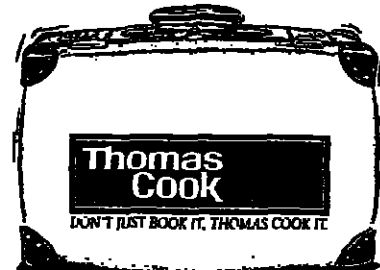
British Rail says the issue boils down to flexibility of use of its equipment. "These people want to use the locomotives for tours that last three days of the week. If they had a dedicated locomotive for their sole use in their livery then we would have to charge the company for the use of it for the whole week, every week. The system we use currently is the most efficient way to contain costs for both organisations."

London to Edinburgh Royal Scotsman tours are available only in April, with a four-day tour and flight back. There are five journeys from London heading to Edinburgh and four in the opposite direction. Prices start from £990 including flight.

PETER VICTOR



A good case for booking next summer's holiday at Thomas Cook.



City breaks success

One-day breaks to European cities have been a huge success this winter (Peter Victor writes). Flights to Vienna, Paris, Prague and even Reykjavik in Iceland are now regularly packed with travellers wanting to try somewhere different for Sunday lunch and take an afternoon stroll around a new city. Extra flights are being laid on to meet demand.

Last Sunday, for example, more than 330 people filled two jets going from Gatwick and Birmingham to Vienna for what had been the last of the planned journeys on Airtours' winter breaks programme.

The trips appeal mainly to professional people, usually those in middle age, and are popular with retired couples, according to Airtours. They are also bought in blocks of ten or so for corporate hospitality jaunts. The price of the trip to Vienna includes a coach tour around the city in

the morning. The afternoon is left free for visitors to pursue their own interests.

The company has run flights to Berlin (€99), Prague (€99), Reykjavik (€149), Venice (€119), Budapest (€119), Paris (€99) and a special Christmas trip to Lapland, which cost £249 including a tour of Santa Claus's village and a sleigh ride.

Airtours will not disclose how much extra revenue the trips have provided but says that all flights have enjoyed 90 per cent occupancy, with some sold out. It has extended the scheme, which originally ran from Gatwick, Birmingham, Manchester and East Midlands airports, with new trips running from Cardiff, Humberside and Liverpool.

Three extra flights have so far been arranged: Manchester-Reykjavik, February 24; Gatwick-Reykjavik, March 3 and Liverpool-Rome, March 24. Some seats are still available (0706 260 000).

Cigarettes extinguished

BRITISH Midland is to ban smoking on all its domestic and international flights from March 28 (Harvey Elliott writes). Austin Reid, the airline's managing director, says: "Our concern is the comfort and health of our passengers and that is best served by cutting out all smoking on all our scheduled flights."

"There is increasing pressure on all airlines to cut smoking and we believe Europe's other major airlines will follow us in introducing complete bans."

British Midland operates only within Europe so flights are comparatively short. For long-haul carriers smoking is more of a headache. British Airways bans it on all domestic services but retains smoking seats on both international and intercontinental routes while, the company says, maintaining "a constant check on customer preference".

The evidence is overwhelming: up to £175 off, only £1 deposit, and the chance to go free. There's only one place for next Summer's holiday. And that's Thomas Cook.

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THE APPL. CATEGORY 1, COMET

Philip Howard



■ Piratical attacks should be met with cutlasses and muskets, not feeble hosepipes

British guidelines on piracy, the first produced by any government since that of Elizabeth I, advise sea captains to use hoses to repel boarders, but refuse to sanction the carrying of firearms on merchant ships. There were more than 100 pirate attacks on ships on the high seas last year, mainly around the wilder shores of south-east Asia. These descendants of Long John Silver use bombs and machine guns instead of the Jolly Roger. The guidelines advise with more prudence than spirit: "There will be many circumstances when compliance with the attackers' demands will be the only safe alternative and when resistance or obstruction of any kind could be both futile and dangerous."

Pirates get a better literature than they deserve in England, perhaps because of atavistic memories that we were founded by pirates from Hengist and Horsa to the Vikings to Duke William down to Sir Francis Drake. Continental powers are less sentimental about the sea than the English, and less indulgent to the brutes that rob and kill on it. Hence the Roman legal maxim that a pirate is the common enemy of all humanity, and hence the boy Caesar, having been captured and made a mascot by amiable pirates, carried out his threat by returning and having them crucified.

Because our history is built upon maritime conquest and sea-routed empire, the English have politer names for pirates, calling them buccaneers (with its admiring echo of bucs, though the etymology seems to be related to barbecue), to sea rovers, to corsairs, to piracons, to privateers (suggesting, not inaccurately, that our brave pirates had merely privatised the nationalised robbery of the treasure fleets from the New World). Even pirates themselves, with their eye patches and scars and unconventional mixture of races and classes, represent the glamour of the wild and the marginal. Pirate is a value judgment, like weed. One man's pirate is another man's freedom fighter.

The tragic hero of *Peter Pan* is not the retarded nomenclature of the play but Captain Hook, the sardonic Old Etonian, who, to be Freudianly correct, should be played by the same actor as Mr Darling. The success of a thousand schoolboy yarns from *Westward Ho!* onwards testifies to the English weakness for piracy. One of the gripping openings in *Eng Lit* is the sound of blind Pew's stick tapping down the hill to the Admiral Benbow.

Pirates are almost as dear as ghosts in the top-box of the English imagination. Although the ghost has a bigger part than sea dogs in the greatest English play, pirates also have a crucial role at the end, when they get Hamlet back to Denmark from what was meant to be a one-way ticket to a choppy end in England. And, characteristically, yet again the pirates are presented as good guys, misunderstood and deprived drop-outs like the ones in *Peter Pan*. Hamlet writes: "They have dealt with me like thieves of mercy, but they knew what they did; I am to do a good turn for them."

Eng Lit is stiff with sympathetic pirates, from *The Corsair*, where Conrad that pirate chief with a sense of chivalry added to the wild romance of Byron, to the view that it is, it is a glorious thing to be a pirate king, where Gilbert's *Pirates of Penzance* turn out to be no members of the common throng, but all noblemen who have gone wrong.

Americans, being originally sea-farers too, shipped the bogus romance of piracy across the Atlantic with the *Magflower*. The American editor, Horace Greely, who said, "Go West, young man, go West," told an applicant for a post on his *New York Tribune*: "If I were to advertise in my paper tomorrow for fifty young men to go on a pirate ship and for five men to work on my farm, there would be five hundred applications for the situation on the pirate ship and not one for the farm." But if these modern sea-wolves cross their crossbones and rattle their skulls, a hose is a feeble response, at least from the salt water that is meant to flow through a true Englishman's veins. When the black flag is hoisted, it should be all hands on deck, man the yardarms, issue the cutlasses, hand out the muskets, and swashbuckle, at least to die with harness on one's back. This may not conform to Board of Trade guidelines, but it suits 20 centuries of romantic literature.



Peter Brooke
11/11/93

Clinton's toughest test

A president wishing to reform health care must take on the medical profession, the drug companies and the lawyers

Last night President Clinton addressed the first electronic town meeting in Michigan. The subject was "Jobs and the Economy", and the whole meeting was broadcast nationally. The studio audience of 60 was picked by WKYC-TV, and the only rules set by the White House were that the audience should have a reasonable geographic and demographic balance, and that the people chosen should not be "disrespectful". There were also remote studio audiences in Seattle, Miami and Atlanta.

The idea of direct electronic democracy was put forward by Ross Perot in his presidential campaign. He is himself planning to hold similar electronic town meetings, with more elaborate feedback, later in the year. Today Hillary Clinton will be holding an all-day meeting on health care in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. That will not employ the electronic town meeting technique, but part of it will be carried live on cable television. Health care looks as though it could become the make or break domestic issue for the Clinton administration.

The American press is already uneasy about this direct approach to public opinion, and Congress could be worried by it as well. So far, President Clinton has not held a press conference since he took office and apparently he has no early plans to do so. His grasp of the details of policy means that he would have little to fear from one. During his election campaign he was able to reach the people over the heads of the press, and he seems to plan to continue to do so.

The president's decision to bypass the journalists may have been influenced by the bad press he has received in his early weeks. He has indeed been written off at least three times in his political career, and some premature commentators are trying to write him off again. He was written off when he lost the governorship of Arkansas, but he later regained it. He was written off when he made too long and too dull a speech nominating Governor Dukakis in the Democratic convention of 1988. He was written off a third time when rumours about his private life swelled up in the New Hampshire primary of 1992. On each occasion the people who wrote him off turned out to be wrong.

Some of the early criticisms are justified. The Clinton administration is not yet fully in place. Some important areas of policy are still being handled by people held over from the Bush adminis-

tration. Two successive failures to nominate an attorney-general have looked clumsy, and we are certainly ill-prepared. But these are not matters which the electorate is going to remember and hold against the president in four years' time. He will be re-elected or not, on three main issues, all of them domestic — the economy, the deficit (which has to be brought under control) and health care. It is no accident that these are the subjects of the first electronic town meeting and of Hillary Clinton's day at Harrisburg.

All three issues fit together. If the economy does not carry through, the deficit will get worse. If health care costs cannot be brought under control, that too will raise the deficit. The Clinton administration will either solve all three problems or will very possibly fail to solve any of them. But it is health care which is the hardest of the three. In giving this area of policy to his wife, the president has made it impossible to distance himself from any failure if there should be one.

American health care is a far more difficult problem than British health care. To start with, there is a strong public expectation that the Clinton administration will improve health care in the United States by improving access to it. At present the statistics show that the average American is getting less good health care than the average citizen of the European Community, though the wealthiest Americans are getting care that may be technologically more advanced.

This is because a large number of Americans, about a third, are not covered by health insurance. They may receive adequate emergency service, but cannot afford the costs of normal health care. These costs are quite astonishing. Dr Henry Heimlich who invented the Heimlich manoeuvre, has a particular cancer therapy. The cost of administering it is \$300,000 a week in the United States, but only \$15,000 a week in Mexico and \$2,000 a week in China.

The National Health Service in Britain may be underfunded, but the contrast between British and American health costs is instructive. Britain spends 6 per cent of gross domestic product on health, somewhat below the European average. The United States, with a higher GDP per head, spends 14 per cent. Real health costs in the US are three times those of Britain, but American health statistics in most areas are not as good.

These costs do not only show up in the rising federal bill for medical care, or in rising insurance charges, or in the bankruptcy of individual families. Cancer is now a financially insupportable disease for many Americans. Company after company is finding that past commitments to health care are now taking away the funds that are needed for investment. General Motors spends almost as many billions on health care as its total loss. Health care costs this year have virtually knocked out the profits of *The New York Times*. Ford spends more on health care than it does on steel.

Why are the costs so high? The nearest parallel, an imprecise one, is defence expenditure during the Cold War. When he retired from the presidency in 1961, President Eisenhower gave a warning against the growing power of the military-industrial complex, based on defence expenditure. There is now a similar health-care complex supported by powerful lobbies. Like defence, health has very strong emotional support in public opinion. Like defence, much of health is paid for out of public funds. Like defence technology, health care is essentially monopolistic, either by profession, status or patents on drugs. In the case of medicine, high costs are reinforced by the threat of legal action for negligence if tests, which may not have been necessary, have not been performed.

A president who wishes to reform health care has therefore to take on medical and nursing professions, the

drug companies and the lawyers, to a large extent he may have to take on public opinion as well. Yet President Clinton has no choice but to try to reform health care because the costs are running out of control and people are not getting the health care that they need.

There are many differences between Bill Clinton and George Bush in their approach to the presidency: one of the most important is that Mr Clinton believes in the power of policy ideas. In recent years there has been a literature, on the subject of the decline of the United States, in economic terms, in terms of competition against Asia and in terms of the social disorder in the inner cities. President Bush reacted to what he called "the decline" by denouncing "the decline" and "the decline" as people lack in faith. Mr Clinton accepts that these threats are making serious points, and the decline must be reversed in those areas where it is really happening. He believes that there are policies which can raise investment in American industry, improve American health care at lower cost, bring the deficit under control, encourage the creation of new jobs, and so on.

He also believes that the American people will support such policies if the need is explained to them. His agenda is not the liberal agenda of minority groups, but much closer to the issues that Ross Perot raised during the 1992 campaign. The president's theme is the revival of the United States.

Whether he can achieve his objective is another matter. He may be dealing with horses which are too strong for him. He may lack the administrative ability to overcome them. Congress may block him as it has blocked previous presidents. He could easily be another failure, a one-term president like Mr Bush or Mr Carter. But he is trying something on a big scale. Last night he was seeking to mobilise American public opinion behind his concept of economic advance. Today Hillary Clinton will be trying to mobilise public opinion behind the Clinton policies for health care.

When he was a boy Bill Clinton heard about the decline and fall of the Roman Empire. Afterwards he commented: "If I'd been emperor, the Roman Empire would not have fallen." He may not be able to live up to his boss, but that may be a clue to what he is trying to achieve as president.

The case against the treaty

Teddy Taylor on why he will vote for amendment 27

Former government ministers have been telling the world that it would be unthinkable for Conservatives to vote for amendment 27 of the Maastricht bill, on the social chapter. They describe it as a socialist plan which would condemn us to management by the extreme left of the trade union movement. Labour leaders have been urging MPs to unite in support of their amendment, to ensure that we do not become the sweatshop of Europe.

Sadly, none of these critics and advocates appears to have realised that amendment 27 does not seek to apply the social chapter to the United Kingdom. It seeks only to remove from the treaty the protocol which gives permission to the other 11 member states to use the facilities of the Commission to implement their agreement on the social chapter. If the amendment is approved, it will not in any way apply the social chapter to Britain, but will simply make it rather difficult for the 11 to operate their agreement.

Certainly the amendment will create a great deal of administrative confusion, if passed. The Foreign Office minister, Tristan Garel-Jones, has suggested that it might prevent Britain from ratifying the treaty. If he is right, as he may be, the nations of Europe would have to consider an alternative treaty, and Ireland and Denmark would require new referendums. But any new treaty would only include a social chapter if Britain agreed to it.

There is also a great deal of misunderstanding about the chapter itself. Far from being a lumpy move towards repression, it is one of the mildest sections of the treaty. Article 2 of the social chapter makes it clear that it cannot be used to produce directives on pay, the right of association of workers, the right to strike or the right to impose lock-outs. True, there is a provision on social security, but even that can only result in a directive if every member state agrees.

Lord Tebbit has used some very strong language about the social chapter, and has urged MPs to vote for any provision, however distasteful, so long as it wrecks the treaty. But the issue of the social chapter is not the issue of the treaty. The social chapter is a means to an end, not an end in itself. It is a means to a more united Europe, a more united Europe, a more united Europe.

What we need to do is to resolve all the divisive problems of Maastricht if the government reconsidered their attitude to a referendum. If they were prepared to give the people the right to decide the issue, the long and tedious debates on the treaty could end within a few hours and the artificial diversion of the social chapter would just fade away.

People should then be warned that the Maastricht Treaty involves a massive surrender of power to non-elected bodies in Europe. The treaty has been called "opt out" on economic and monetary union appears to be no more significant than the freedom we give to the people of Scotland to have their own pound note — however symbolic, its existence does not give the Scots the right to determine their own economic policy.

The treaty will also involve considerable additional sums being paid by British taxpayers to the EC. Of course government ministers assured us after the Edinburgh summit in December that the extra costs would be rather small, but the leaders of states like Ireland and Spain were received as national heroes when they returned home to report that billions of euros would pour into their coffers as a result of Edinburgh.

The simple message is that the freedom and liberty of the British people belongs not to John Major, John Smith or Paddy Ashdown, but to the people themselves. Without a clear pledge of a referendum we can surely have no option but to vote for amendment 27.

Sir Teddy Taylor, MP for Southend East, is secretary of the Tory European Reform Group.

Clash of the tartans

NOT everyone hopes the Queen's Own Highlanders and The Gordon Highlanders will follow "The King's Own Scottish Borderers and The Royal Scots in being reprieved from amalgamation. Robert Noble, the Peebles firm which makes tartans for all the Scottish regiments, would welcome a commission to make a new tartan for an amalgamated regiment.

Neither regiment will discuss their plans for amalgamation, but Roland Brett, Robert Noble's production director, says he has "offered his services" for the contract and that it has already been "tentatively discussed" with the Ministry of Defence. "The MoD has intimated that the two regiments might want a joint tartan," he says.

Brett is experienced in the tricky business of creating new tartans, especially compromise tartans. In the 1970s, he says, Robert Noble created joint tartans for a number of regiments. "It is quite a long and arduous job and it can be pretty stormy. You have both

colonels there and each wants more of his tartan than the other. Each guards his tartan jealously." During these sessions, Brett would sit on the sidelines with the MoD acting as peacemaker.

Of course, there is the economically prudent alternative that The King's Own Scottish Borderers and The Royal Scots opted for, prior to reprieve. The former's Leslie tartan was to be worn by the soldiers and officers and the latter's Hunting Stewart tartan by the drummers. This, says Colonel Stuart McBain, The Royal Scots' regimental secretary, was a "happy compromise... well, the best under the circumstances."

Chin-gford Skinhead. Semi-house-trained polecat, Maastricht mauler. They are all terms of endearment which have been heaped on Lord Tebbit. But at yesterday's press go lily lunch, Tebbit was relishing the current vogue for another of his alter egos: Dracula. Tebbit recalled that when he was given a peerage

many thought he had been nailed up safely in his political box. "But like some awful Hammer House of Horror film the Chingford coffin lid has burst open." The question is: how handy is John Major with a stake?

Erotic fantasy

TWO anniversaries for the price of one. The Shaftesbury Homes and Arethusa charity for disadvantaged teenagers today begins its 150th anniversary celebrations with a service in the presence of the Queen Mother. But Alexander Kilgour of Shaftesbury Homes is already looking forward to June and the centenary anniversary of the Shaftesbury Memorial, better known as Eros, the statue currently absent from London's Piccadilly Circus.

"People always forget that the statue is not in fact Eros, the Greek god of physical love, but the angel of Christian charity, dedicated to the 7th Earl of Shaftesbury, who did so much for the vagrants of London," he says.

However, according to Peyton Skipwith, deputy managing director of the Fine Art



DIARY

Society — the original agents of Alfred Gilbert, the statue's sculptor — the figure may equally well be interpreted as Eros's younger brother Anteros, the god of selfless love. "The fact that it should resemble Eros is curious since Lord Shaftesbury was renowned for his good works, and most cer-



tainly not for his physical love," he says. "In fact, he was such a fanatical fundamentalist that the day his wife died he cut her out of his prayers since, in his book, to pray for the dead was to deny the possibility of the Resurrection."

In the red

GIVEN the financial difficulties the Tory party has found itself in, what chance does one give the Leninists, now in control of the Communist Party of Great Britain, of raising a new fighting fund?

A monthly target of £4,000 has been set to support the *Daily Worker*, the organ of the CPGB. Leanne Bates, a member of the editorial board, says the new money would allow the paper to once again justify its name. "We come out three times a week, and are working

towards coming out every day, which is why we have set up the appeal."

The size of the appeal has astonished the CPGB's rivals. "I should be surprised if they have even got 400 members," sniffs a spokeswoman for the Communist Party of Britain, which is not to be confused with the Communist Party of Great Britain. "The only way they will get that is if a right-wing group gives it the money to cause trouble in the far left."

In today's world, a diplomat's career is far from stable, a fact much discussed at this week's meeting of the European Atlantic Group. However, Sergiu Celac, the Romanian ambassador, has an unusual contingency plan should the worst occur: "In 1978 I fell out with that nice man Ceausescu and stopped being a career diplomat," he says. "So for 12 years, I composed pop lyrics — mostly love songs — in both English and Romanian. Of course, since 1989, when I was made foreign minister and then ambassador I've been writing rather different lyrics — but I'm actually quite looking forward to being fired again."



Birt goes for black and white

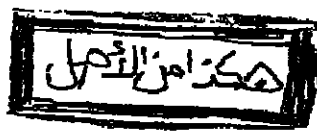
JOHN BIRT and Liz Porgan are already forging a powerful alliance at the BBC. But is their sphere of influence spreading? Consider, for instance, the new prospectus produced by Birt and Porgan for the Kent girls' school that educated not only the Princess Royal but also housed the memoir-writing skills of the new head of BBC Radio.

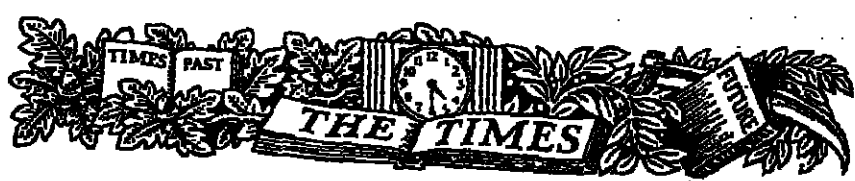
The brochure features arresting black-and-white pictures of school life photographed by one Michael Birt, younger brother of the BBC director-general. The commission was won entirely on merit, says Miss Gillian du Charmé, Benenden's headmistress.

"I first met Michael when he photographed me for a magazine," she says. "He was so good that I asked him to do the prospectus."

"It's a highly sophisticated brochure," Birt says. "Most public schools opt for a glossy colour approach, while I think is quite tacky. This black and white and it's subtle."

Birt's work: the prospectus





TRADING PLACES

The EC is warming to free trade just as America wavers

There is quiet mourning in Brussels for President Bush. The European Community dragged its heels through more than six years of global negotiations to liberalise trade and strengthen Gatt. The harder the Bush administration pressed for the deal it was genuinely anxious to conclude, the more Jacques Delors insisted that the EC "stand up to America". The arrival of the Clinton administration, which is ambivalent about free trade and openly sceptical of Gatt's value as trade umpire, has brought the EC face to face with the consequences of using so long a spoon to sup with Mr Bush.

European governments are at last realising that the failure of Gatt's Uruguay Round could rapidly usher in a protectionist free-for-all, with America in the lead. In Sir Leon Brittan, its new trade commissioner, the EC now has a convincing advocate of the benefits of a liberal trading system under multilaterally agreed rules. Today, Sir Leon is in Washington to discover whether Europe's conversion has come too late.

The Clinton administration has already shown a troubling readiness to use trade sanctions, notably against foreign steel producers, in response to protectionist demands for a "level playing field". But on the crucial question of what priority to give to concluding the Uruguay Round, the White House is undecided. Instead of dwelling on recent trade disputes and possible EC retaliation, Sir Leon should take the high ground with his American counterpart, Mickey Kantor, concentrating above all on getting the Uruguay Round negotiations back into play.

To judge by his aggressive rhetoric during confirmation hearings and the verve with which he has used America's anti-dumping laws, Mr Kantor fancies himself as a trade warrior. He has suggested that America has been putting foreign policy considerations before its economic interests and that this

must stop — curious logic from the world's largest exporting nation, whose exports have grown by nearly a quarter in value since 1989. This says much about his definition of American interests. He talks about "saving American jobs" from foreign competition, rather than saving the open world markets in which exporters thrive. He supports the reintroduction of Super 301, a legislative tool obliging the US administration to retaliate unilaterally against countries with "unfair" trade practices. Such unilateral action would gravely damage Gatt.

Most alarmingly, Mr Kantor has hinted at reopening whole sectors of the Uruguay Round negotiations on which agreement has been reached or is near completion — including last November's hard-won agreement between the EC and the US on liberalising farm trade. That would undo six years' work and destroy America's credibility as a negotiating partner, effectively dooming the round to failure.

Mr Clinton must soon decide whether to ask Congress to extend his negotiating authority for the Uruguay Round, which expires in March. Sir Leon must try to persuade both the Clinton administration and a lukewarm Congress to build on what has been achieved so far and conclude the talks speedily. That must mean making a convincing case that the EC, despite France, is ready to make concessions and determined not to backtrack on agreements already reached. Gatt cannot survive without America's continued interest and support for its rules. For America to rely on its economic muscle to settle trade disputes would ultimately be destructive of American interests. But for the first time since the second world war, an American administration needs to be reminded of the risks inherent in protectionism. Sir Leon must make the most of this critical opportunity to influence policy before the mould is set.

RUSSIAN ROULETTE

Yeltsin must not sacrifice principle to cling to power

President Boris Yeltsin's call for a year-long moratorium on political punch-ups and "other major political events" is the cry of a giddy man desperate to slow down the carousel on which he finds himself. It is an understandable reaction at the end of a dreadful winter in which the elements have conspired with galloping inflation to put the populace in a sour mood and enable his enemies to chip away at his confidence. In Russia's present confusion, it is also an absurdly optimistic aim, a Potemkinist self-delusion all the more depressing for coming from someone who rose to power as a straight-talking pragmatist.

The man of action is reduced to trying to halt a historical conflict which he himself helped set in motion. He cannot do so. Either he will find the reserves to master events or, like his predecessor, fall victim to them: there is no way of ducking the battle brewing for the future of Russia.

The point at issue is not that of economic reform. Even the instinctively conservative prime minister, Viktor Chernomyrdin, has come to appreciate the necessity of its continuation and has accepted the Western nostrums that this can only happen if state spending is strictly limited and inflation kept down. There are quite naturally heated debates about the tactics and tempo of restructuring but the government which was appointed after the loss of Yegor Gaidar in December has continued work on the economy with an admirably steady hand.

The problem is what sort of political culture is supposed to result from this transformation and how much democracy it will contain. It is here that the Russian leader has been at his weakest. His early role as a symbol of democratic values is barely

recognisable, obscured by his too-ready compromises with the querulous parliament. By cancelling the referendum on who wields power in the state — fearing that an embarrassing number of voters would abstain due to hostility to himself, confusion about the purpose of the referendum and sheer indifference — he has indicated that he is not prepared to wage an all-out battle on behalf of liberal government against a fundamentally reactionary legislature if there is a chance of losing it.

There is now talk of a power-sharing deal with the mercurial conservative parliamentary chairman, Ruslan Khasbulatov. It may be the only option left to Mr Yeltsin. But he would be well advised to consider how far it is honourable or wise to proceed towards such compromise. This is a society not only historically conditioned to respect strong rule but paralysed by the unexpected demise of a dictatorship and desperately in need of a cause to believe in. The reason Mr Yeltsin was so popular in his first months in power was that he projected confidence about the attainability of dignity and pluralism in a country which had lived on its knees. Of course, the glow was bound to fade as the immense difficulty of change revealed itself, but he has been disappointingly swift to subordinate the pursuit of genuine democracy to strategies for staying in office whatever the cost.

Faced with so much ducking and weaving neither the liberal intelligentsia who brought him to power nor the ordinary people on whose hearts and minds the fate of reform ultimately depends can be sure of what, if anything, Mr Yeltsin is prepared to fight for. He may not have nearly as much as a year in which to make up his mind.

MAFF OVER A BARREL

Consumers need much better food information

It may take more than one rotten apple to cause cancer or birth defects in a human being, but it takes only one scare story about food safety in the national press to cause public outcry and a collapse in demand for a product. The revelation that the government discovered high levels of patulin in apple juice nearly a year ago yet decided not to make its findings public will only increase the public's suspicion that the agriculture ministry is more concerned to protect the interests of farmers than those of consumers. And it will undoubtedly lead to greater scepticism over MAFF's subsequent assurances that British apple juice is perfectly safe.

After the salmonella-in-eggs scare, it is not badly hurt the egg industry, it is not surprising that MAFF feels under pressure to protect the producers of apple juice against a similar consumer boycott. But in this matter, the ministry seems to have acted in an unnecessarily secretive and dilatory fashion.

As early as last June, MAFF was made aware that a quarter of the cloudy apple juices tested in a small sample had levels of patulin above the maximum recommended by the World Health Organisation. The scientific evidence is patchy, but patulin is capable of damaging cells and may be carcinogenic. It may also cause birth defects. MAFF's excuse for not publishing these findings is that they could have been rogue results. If so, why did the ministry not immediately embark on a much larger survey?

MAFF intends to publish a pamphlet

soon spelling out the levels of risk involved in consuming patulin — too late for any woman who has become pregnant in the past eight months. The risks may well be low enough for consumers to ignore. But they have a right to make that assessment for themselves on the basis of as much information as possible.

Food scares cause panic in Britain because information is so scarce. In America, any food that is capable of causing an adverse reaction has to say as much on the label. Because so many labels carry warnings, American consumers are relatively blasé about them. But at least if they take risks, those are risks they have chosen to run in full knowledge of the possible consequences.

Food safety in America is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, an independent body with no links to producers, while here it is monitored by MAFF itself, a ministry notoriously in cahoots with farmers and food companies. The consumer panel that meets MAFF ministers once a month is supposed to represent the interests of those who buy and eat food, but was only consulted about apple juice last week.

People have a right to information about the safety of the food they eat and they will trust assurances about risk much more from an organisation that has their best interests at heart. If MAFF cannot demonstrate independence from producer lobbies, it may be time for consumers to be represented by a powerful outside body instead.

Defence cuts a threat to Navy

From Rear Admiral P. F. Grenier

Sir, You report (February 5) the possibility that the four brand-new Upholder class conventional submarines could be given the kiss of death by the current defence cuts. In operational capability the UK leads the world with the Upholder class. Our civilian workforce for the design, building and maintenance of conventional submarines is proven and is in competition for the many lucrative markets in this field which still exist. Yet for short-term budgetary trickery we are preparing to discard a significant long-term investment.

I hope the Admiralty Board show some backbone and operational wisdom in fighting this. In future years, should this maritime nation get caught out by a total lack of conventional submarine capability, it would be little good for the numerous chair-bound admirals to point astern to what in truth would have been very small savings in the 1993 budget.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK GRENIER
(Flag Officer Submarines, 1987-9),
Army and Navy Club,
36-39 Pall Mall, SW1,
February 7.

From Mr P. J. Freeman

Sir, The possible cancellation of the Royal Navy's new helicopter carrier (LPH) and further delay in replacement for the aging assault ships (LPH), HMS *Fearless* and *Intrepid* (letter, February 8), are disturbing.

The government's *Options for Change* policy, announced on July 25, 1990, emphasised the need for flexible and mobile forces and expressly confirmed the retention of an amphibious capability in the longer term (HC266: section on Evidence, pp 17, 18).

Mr Kenneth Carlisle, then under-secretary at the defence ministry, said in the House of Commons: "We certainly intend to keep our amphibious capability to a high and effective level." (Hansard, June 27, 1991, col 1180)

After many delays (initial tenders for the LPH were allowed to lapse in 1991 without an order) the intention to proceed with these ships was finally confirmed in February 1992. They are central to the continued amphibious capability of the Royal Marines and army. It is therefore bizarre to make the focus of cost-saving and quite inconsistent with the government's professed policy of greater flexibility and mobility for our much reduced armed forces in the future.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. FREEMAN,
21 Clarkson Road, Cambridge,
February 8.

Press freedom

From Mr Anthony Pragnell

Sir, David Pannick QC, in his article, "Wanted: the right to free speech" (February 2), says the UK refuses to incorporate into domestic law Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights "so as to provide for a right of freedom of expression allowing for a restriction only where this serves a 'pressing social need'".

He may well be right to press for an explicit recognition of the right to free speech. But, if we are to rely on Article 10 of the convention, we should take into account that paragraph 2 of that article does not rule out legal restrictions in a number of instances which are more specific than "pressing social need" might suggest. They are those necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

Incorporating Article 10 into our domestic law might, as Mr Pannick wants, create a framework for a balance between the rights and responsibilities of the press. It would not, however, remove the need first to decide how many of the above restrictions should apply, and in what form. Article 10 may point the way, but it does not, on its own, provide a simple answer to all our problems.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY PRAGNELL,
Ashley, Grassy Lane,
Sevenoaks, Kent,
February 3.

Captain Scott's drugs

From Dr Tilly Tansey

Sir, Edward Wilson, the doctor on the Scott expedition, was one of many expedition doctors presented with a travel case of Burroughs Wellcome's medicines, made up to individual specifications (Professor Michael Stock's letter, February 6).

Burroughs Wellcome made something of a speciality of preparing drug-cases containing their compressed "Tabloid" medicines for expeditions: Sir Henry Stanley was the first to use one, and since then explorations to practically every part of the world, including both Poles and Everest, have been accompanied by Tabloid medicine chests.

Wellcome kits accompanied pioneer airmen, and the Apollo space crews carried "Marzine", produced by the successor company, the Wellcome

Unification plan for two hospitals

From the Co-Chairmen of the Guy's and St Thomas' hospitals' Joint Clinical Directors' Group

Sir, As members of the consultant staff of St Thomas' and Guy's hospitals we would like to contribute to the debate on the future of our two institutions and of our joint medical school.

We affirm our commitment to overall improvements in the medical services that are provided for our patients. We agree with Professor Sir Bernard Tomlinson that a major enhancement of services in the community is required — and indeed we have been associated with the setting-up of the community care centre that has been held up as an example of excellence in the field.

We also agree that a joint trust encompassing the two hospitals would be a good means of ensuring that the inefficient duplication of hospital services could be resolved and we are already making plans for unification of some departments and for rationalisation of services.

We do not agree with Professor Tomlinson when he suggests that clinical services on one of our two hospital sites must cease within a two-year period. Insufficient work has been done to assess the feasibility of this proposal and its effect on services. Any changes will also be dependent on necessary improvements in the provision of community and primary care services. Too rapid a transfer of services would cause particular harm to our local patients — and, despite a perception to the contrary, most of our services are provided for patients from our immediate locality.

It would also jeopardise plans for the smooth unification of specialist services as well as for the consolidation of other clinical services that would best be provided within a St Thomas'/Guy's trust, and our ability to preserve what is best in them. It would damage the plans of our

medical school to unite with King's College and integrate relevant departments with those of our medical school, a proposal which was supported by Professor Tomlinson and which we endorse.

We believe that we can achieve rationalisation of clinical services using facilities on both of our two sites, making available sufficient space to enable us to honour in full our current commitments to undergraduate and postgraduate medical, dental and allied education and research, much of which needs to be closely integrated with clinical services.

Complete concentration of the teaching hospital services on a single site may be possible at some time in the future when the improvements in care of patients in the community have been achieved.

We very much want to explore the opportunity to develop new forms of providing community and primary care services, including teaching hospital outreach services, as part of the overall arrangements to improve health care for our local population. Precipitate action could easily destroy the best of our clinical, educational and research facilities, which have taken many years to develop, and leave a dangerous deficit.

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL MAISEY,
ANTHONY YOUNG
(Co-Chairmen, Guy's and St Thomas' Joint Clinical Directors' Group),
CYRIL CHANTLER
(Principal, United Medical and Dental School, Guy's and St Thomas' hospitals),
IAN PHILLIPS (Clinical Dean, UMDs),
R. K. KNIGHT
(Chairman, Guy's Medical and Dental Committee),
D. HENDERSON
(Chairman, St Thomas' Medical Advisory Committee),
Guy's Hospital,
St Thomas' Street, SE1,
February 9.

Anxieties of age

From Mr M. C. Biddle

Sir, Mrs P. Vernon (letter, February 9) rightly draws attention to the regulation applying to claimants for income support who voluntarily deprive themselves of capital, for example, the family home (letter, January 28). Whether such a regulation is fair may be debatable (Mr Martin Sweet's letter, February 9) but it is currently flawed in implementation.

A disposal made in ignorance of capital limits cannot be "for the purpose" of securing benefit, where the purpose of disposal is unclear, the burden of proving the purpose rests on the benefits agency or local authority, but even a subsidiary motive can disqualify from benefit. In practice, the longer the period between disposal and claim, the less likely the disqualification from benefit.

The rules discriminate against the honest claimant, and encourage subterfuge and non-disclosure.

Yours faithfully,
M. C. BIDDLE,
Woodford & Ackroyd (Solicitors),
Rockstone Place,
Southampton, Hampshire.

From Mr M. E. R. Lambert

Sir, I sympathise with the view that the state should not pick up the bill for a person who has sufficient funds to pay for a home. There is, however, a marked difference in approach between the tax exemption on estates, and the rules for retirement homes, where payment is required until an individual's assets fall to £7,000. A

person is entitled to organise his affairs within the law so as to minimise his tax burden, and charges made in retirement homes are merely another similar burden that, with careful planning, can be avoided.

Is not the answer to relate subsidies in such homes to income rather than to capital assets, which quite reasonably most people will wish to protect for their heirs' benefit?

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
M. E. R. LAMBERT,
Temple House, Harbury,
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.

From Mr G. H. Morgan

Sir, I believe the financial manoeuvre of passing on the family home prematurely, described in Mr Charlier's letter (January 28), is part of a process known in America as "spend down". By this means "spousal impoverishment" is avoided when one's partner requires long-term means-tested care.

This may be unacceptable in some cases; but now that pressure on NHS resources has forced the service to part with so many long-term care beds in the mental health sector, means-tested health care for many patients in our client group is becoming a reality. Is it immoral to take steps to avoid the run-down of family assets at the rate of £20,000 per annum for health care already paid for through national insurance contributions?

G. H. MORGAN
(Chairman, Salisbury branch, Alzheimer's Disease Society),
99 Beach Road, Landford,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Words of wisdom

From Mr Anthony Holden

Sir, Bernard Levin (February 5) approvingly quotes Lord St John of Fawcett's "very wise" observation that "we can have a grand monarchy, or we can have no monarchy, but we cannot have a mean monarchy".

In 1867 the equally wise Walter Bagehot wrote: "There are arguments for not having a Court, and there are arguments for having a splendid Court; but there are no arguments for having a mean Court." (*The English Constitution*).

My apologies for letting in daylight on Lord St John's magic.

Yours etc,
ANTHONY HOLDEN,
5 Ravenscourt Square, W6.

Foundation, as a precaution against motion sickness

Professor Stock is right to question Dr Wilson's use of thyroid gland extract, especially as the problems of hyperthyroidism were known to contemporary doctors. His suggestion that Wilson considered it a prophylactic against hypothermia carries some conviction, although such usage was not included in the company's promotional recommendations.

With hindsight, the fated expedition might have been better advised to take another Tabloid preparation "Forced March", containing cocaine and caffeine, and advertised to "prolong the power of endurance".

Yours faithfully,
TILLY TANSEY (Historian of Modern Medical Science),
Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine,
183 Euston Road, NW1.

Asset-stripping of government art

From Mr Keith Patrick

Sir, The British section of the International Association of Art Critics voted unanimously on Monday to condemn any initiative on the part of the government to sell its art collection (report, February 8).

Despite limited funds, the collection continues to provide an invaluable service. Its advisory committee includes the directors of the three most prestigious public galleries in the country, together with two leading critics.

Purchases made in recent years creditably represent our contemporary heritage. Such works are purchased with specific sites in mind and have an immeasurable influence on the way British culture is perceived abroad.

As few of the works would achieve significant sums at auction, the Treasury's proposed asset-stripping is not only miscalculated, but indicates the failure of the government to honour its obligations as the guardian of the nation's cultural heritage.

Yours,
KEITH PATRICK
(President, British section, International Association of Art Critics),
49 Priory Gardens, N6,
February 9.

From Lady Piper

Sir, My late husband, David Piper, served for years on an advisory committee to the then Ministry of Works for the purchase of works of art for the government.

The scheme was run virtually single-handed, and on a low budget, by Richard Walker (now working with the National Trust) for 27 years after the war; the bulk of the collection was built up by him during that time before art prices began to soar.

It must surely be a bad joke that the government is apparently considering selling an irreplaceable asset, collected with such care, which is representing the best of our painters in countries all over the world.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE H. PIPER,
Overford Farm, Wytham, Oxford,
February 9.

Constructive ideas

From Mr Alan D. Guest

Sir, Would the sculpture *Equivalent VIII* ("Minimal impact, maximum fuss", February 5) be a different work of art if the Tate had simply ordered 120 bricks from a local supplier at considerably less cost? Since I am sure photographs exist of the other brick sculptures, the Tate, or anyone else for that matter, could recreate, as Carl Andre did, any of the sculptures. Or would this constitute forgery?

I wonder if Richard Cork would recognise the bricks as sculpture if he saw them on the pavement outside the house next door, or would he assume his neighbours were going to have alterations done to their kitchen?

It seems to me that some things are regarded as works of art simply because they are displayed in an art gallery.

Yours sincerely,
ALAN D. GUEST,
Flat 14-06, Victoria Centre,
Nottingham,
February 5.

From Mrs Rosemary Stewart-Jones

Sir, The original group of Carl Andre's bricks at the Tate made a lot of people see what beauty there could be in texture and colour and how a lot of constructions are more beautiful to look at while they are being finished.

Any student of art could have arranged the pile. But has the Tate paid rather too much for such a simple lesson?

Yours sincerely,
ROSEMARY STEWART-JONES,
Harcourt House,
West Dean, Chichester, Sussex.

From Mrs Alfred Taylor

Sir, Richard Cork's article has made me very happy. As I lie here relaxing flat on the floor in my simplicity, directness and lack of theatricality, modest, unassuming, even discreet, it has been borne in upon me for the first time that I am a work of art.

Yours faithfully,
MARY L. TAYLOR,
Loretana, 20 Buttermere Close,
Cockermouth, Cumbria,
February 5.

Food to get you fit

From Mr John N. Pare

Sir, I seem increasingly to find that the energy needed to penetrate much of modern food-packaging exceeds that generated by the contents.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN N. PARE,
Pen-y-Llan Hall,
Oswestry, Shropshire,
February 8.

Business letters, page 25
Sports letters, page 36

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

OBITUARIES

BILL GRUNDY

Bill Grundy, television presenter and journalist, died on February 9 aged 69.

OF ALL the professional casualties produced by television, Bill Grundy was among the more notorious. But in his day he was a journalist of trenchant style and considerable appeal. In the first decade of Granada Television, he was the persona most closely identified with Sidney Bernstein's concept of a place called Granada. He brought to any studio in which he appeared a Lancastrian no-nonsense spirit which was entirely his own.

Grundy's invariable habit of addressing the camera, slightly side-on, eyebrow cocked, offered an indication of what the viewer might expect. He was sceptical and challenging with an unerring eye for the phoney and the meretricious. He cared little or nothing for reputation and was one of the first television interviewers to make politicians quake at the thought of an encounter. All this was in the early 1960s, when television was politely feeling its way into society. Most interviewers at the time were content to adopt an ingratiating demeanour, uncannily rolling titles like "Your Grace" or "Prime Minister" around their tongues.

Grundy would have none of that. What you saw was what you got and, although what the audience sometimes got was brusque and bad-tempered—occasionally even rude—it was never boring. There was always a whiff of danger attached to Grundy's appearances on the small screen and this, no doubt, played its part—as with Gilbert Harding—in his undoubted capacity to hold his viewers' attention.

A geologist by training and initially a schoolmaster by profession, Grundy was with Granada from the time of its launch in May 1956. His TV debut was in Granada's first drama production—a play about



football called *Shooting Star*—in which he played a humble "extra". He came into his own, however, when Granada started its nightly local news programme entitled *People and Places* in 1958. Its fame

soon spread well beyond Granada and Grundy's relaxed chairing of it—at first shared with Gay Byrne (later to join RTE)—soon established his reputation, at least within the television community. He was also

the anchorman for the first-ever TV coverage of any by-election, that of Rochdale in March 1958. That, with his decade and more of commentating on party conferences, provided him with a national identity that in serious television at the time was perhaps matched only by that of Richard Dimbleby.

When Dimbleby died in 1965, there were those who believed that Grundy was the man to take his place on *Panorama*. It would certainly have been a different programme if he had (as it was, Robin Day succeeded to Dimbleby's chair). It might also have made a great difference to Grundy's own future career, which tended from the 1970s onwards to go downhill. Announcing his departure from Granada in 1968, Grundy somewhat grandiloquently remarked that he suspected the trouble, from the company's point of view, was that his own name had become "practically synonymous" with that of Granada. The truth, alas, was that it had become far too closely connected with increasingly bizarre behaviour both in and out of the studio.

An habit of hospitality suites, Grundy was to fight a long battle with alcoholism. Even during the years of his greatest celebrity there were regular stories of stormy scenes in the company flat above Granada's canal-side headquarters in Manchester. Producers tended to quell before him, and it was sometimes left for the most senior company executives to bring him to order—though his greatest come-uppance was reputed to have been delivered by Elizabeth Douglas-Home when he presumed to insult her husband during a social gathering at a Tory party conference.

Grundy's later years in television were sad ones. He was the co-presenter, with Eamonn Andrews, of Thames TV's local early evening current affairs programme—quaint-

ly called *Today*—during most of the 1970s but it was an association that came to grief fairly soon after his famous studio encounter with the Sex Pistols in December 1976. This was a programme that instantly went down into television folklore, with Grundy being accused of having incited his guests to "turn the air blue" at an hour when children were still having their tea. Although Grundy's defence was that he was merely trying to show what "a four-mouthed set of jobs" the members of this particular rock-group were, it did him little good with his employers. He was immediately suspended from duty and, a year later, did not get his contract renewed.

He remained, however, a considerable writing journalist—contributing regularly to William Davis's *Punch* and (earlier) to Nigel Lawson's *Spectator*. His early training as a teacher gave him a real enthusiasm to share what he knew—and this was also true on the box where he remained a particularly effective presenter of *What the Papers Say* (a programme he was to present more than 80 times).

Towards the end of his career he increasingly wrote about television—frequently giving the impression that it had turned sour on him. But, by then, of course, not just television—but the whole of broadcasting—had more or less given up on him. One of his last appearances in any form of studio came at Radio Piccadilly in Manchester some ten years ago when he walked out on his own. As the producer of the commercial station's early morning programme, he had dared to criticise his father's delivery. At least, it was an uncharacteristic gesture on Bill Grundy's part—for in general his entire maverick record proved that he cared as little for his own fame and reputation as he did for that of others. He is survived by his wife, Nicky, two daughters and four sons.

THE REV CHANDOS MORGAN

The Rev Chandos Morgan, CB, former Chaplain of the Fleet, died on January 1 aged 72. He was born on August 12, 1920.

CHANDOS Morgan who loved the sea (appropriately, his Welsh surname means "Song of the Sea") had his prayers answered. Of the 25 years he served in the Royal Navy, 15 were spent afloat. He sailed the world, to Hong Kong and Korea, was posted to the Middle East for two years and was chaplain in the aircraft carrier *Theseus* at Suez—ministering to the wounded. His outgoing personality and immense energy had long made him a natural candidate for advancement. His appointment in 1972 as Chaplain of the Fleet (giving him rank equivalent to that of rear-admiral) was no surprise.

The son of a Welsh father and an Irish mother, he was born in Dublin, later living in Anglesy. He was educated at Stowe and Jesus College, Cambridge, and at Ridley Hall theological college. Ordained during the war, he began as a curate at Holy Trinity, Tunbridge Wells, and in 1947 joined the staff of the Children's Special Service Mission (now called the Scripture Union).

He entered the Royal Navy as a chaplain in 1951, serving first at HMS *Pembroke*, the shore base at Chatham. He first went to sea in the aircraft carrier *Vengeance*. From there he was sent to the cruiser *Ceylon*—in which he was away from home for more than two years, sailing to Australia during the Queen's first tour there.

He was posted to the naval base at Devonport, in 1954, before becoming chaplain in two aircraft carriers, *Theseus* in 1956 and her sister ship, *Ocean*, in 1957. Between 1958 and 1961 Morgan was in Scotland, first at the apprentices' school, HMS *Caledonia*, and then at the submarine base at Faslane. After a period in the Red Sea he went to the Royal Naval Air Station, Yeovilton, in 1963.

He was at sea again in the aircraft carrier *Ark Royal* in 1965, his last big ship sea appointment before he came back onshore to the electrical training school in Portsmouth. From 1969 he was at the training establishment for petty officers, HMS *Royal Arthur*.

Chandos Morgan served as Chaplain of the Fleet and Archdeacon of the Royal Navy from 1972 until 1975 and was appointed an honorary chaplain to the Queen in 1973. He then retired from the Navy to become chaplain at Dean Close school, Cheltenham, until 1983. His final ministry, and in some ways his most remarkable, was as rector of St Margaret Lothbury, a Wren church in the City of London where he invigorated the parish "like a large gun and tonic" as one member of his congregation put it. He visited city boardrooms and sandwich bars, equally at home in either, following his naval experience. He also endeared himself to many by the counselling and help he offered to distressed workers in the City at the time of both the "Big Bang" in 1986 and "Black Monday" in the following year.

During 1988-89 he was chaplain to the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Christopher Collett. He also became a freeman of the City of London and a governor of his old school, Stowe. An evangelical by persuasion, Chandos Morgan loved sport of most kinds. He listed riding, shooting and sailing among his recreations but also played tennis and rugby as a young man. He is survived by his wife Dorothy ("Molly"), whom he met during his curacy at Tunbridge Wells, and by their one son.

HANS JONAS

Hans Jonas, an influential German-born American philosopher who sounded warnings about the influence of modern technology on human life, died at his home in New Rochelle, New Jersey, on February 5 aged 89. He was born in Mönchengladbach, in the Lower Rhine region of Germany.

HANS Jonas was never one to skirt controversy. Throughout his career he showed a willingness to tackle topics that most professional philosophers shied away from, and the scope of his writings—from organ transplantation to the dialogue between Jews and Christians—made him something of an icon to scholars concerned with ethics and religion.

Himself a Jew, Jonas fled from Germany when Hitler came to power in 1933, sought refuge in Jerusalem, and served in the British Army during the second world war. He returned to Jerusalem after the war and served with the Israeli military before emigrating to Canada and finally, in 1955, to the United States.

As chairman of the philosophy department at the New School for Social Responsibility in Manhattan, Jonas's work attracted little public attention until, in 1964, he created a mild sensation by launching an attack on Martin Heidegger, one of the acknowledged giants of modern philosophy.

Jonas knew Heidegger well; he had been his student at the University of Freiburg before gaining his doctorate from the University of Marburg in

1928. Invited to address a theological meeting at Drew University on the subject of Heidegger's thought and its relation to Christian theology, Jonas roundly accused his former mentor—still alive at that time—of Nazi sympathies.

Jonas quoted the Bible's call to "do justice, and to love mercy and walk humbly with your God." "Heidegger's own answer is on record," he continued. "Here it is, spoken to the students of Germany: 'Not theorems and ideas but the rules of your being. The Führer himself and alone is the present and future German reality and its law. Heil Hitler!'" Jonas received a standing ovation.

The incident, though it brought Jonas to public notice, had little connection with the mainstream of his thought.

Originally an historian of religion, he had become increasingly concerned with new discoveries in biology and medicine, and his book *The Phenomenon of Life*, published in 1966, marked him as one of the first philosophers to deal seriously with the problem of medical ethics.

He was credited with making important contributions on such matters as the definition of death and the moral problems of using human beings for medical research.

In all Jonas wrote a dozen books, the last, *The Imperative of Responsibility*, was published in 1984, eight years after his retirement as the Alvin Johnson Professor of Philosophy at the New School.

He is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters.



Manfred Lachs

JUDGE Manfred Lachs, a member and former president of the International Court of Justice, died on January 14 aged 78. He was born in Poland on April 21, 1914.

He served on the International Court of Justice from 1967 until his death and was its president, 1973-76.

One of his first roles in international law was as a member of the United Nations War Crimes Commission at the end of the second

world war and, in 1945, his book *War Crimes: An Attempt to Define the Issue*, was published.

It was devoted, in part, to distinguishing between war crimes and political offences for which a right of asylum might be claimed by a fugitive in the country to which he had fled.

Lachs served in the Polish Army in the second world war and was afterwards a delegate to the UN general assembly before joining the Hague court.

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Citibank faces legal challenge over Polly Peck £75m



Nadir: 1991 writ

THE administrators to the collapsed Polly Peck International have started legal action against Citibank for the recovery of £75 million. Christopher Morris, the administrator of Touche Ross, the accountant, said yesterday that the claim was one of a number he plans to pursue.

The action is an attempt to recover part of the £371 million allegedly misappropriated by Asil Nadir, former chairman and chief executive of Polly Peck. In October 1991, Touche issued a writ against Mr Nadir for recovery of £371 million. The case against him is

now at the discovery stage. Touche has issued proceedings in the High Court in London against Citibank in London, Citibank (Switzerland) AG and Confidas Finance et Placement SA, a Swiss-based company that provides fiduciary and trust services for customers of Citicorp Group. Touche alleges that £75 million of the £371 million of Polly Peck funds, which the administrators have claimed from Mr Nadir in the earlier action, were transferred via Citibank in London.

The £75 million is believed to be linked to a £73 million claim against Mr Nadir's mother Safiye Nadir, who lives in northern Cyprus. Last year,

judgment was given in Touche's favour over the £73 million and the administrators are attempting to locate assets in order to enforce it.

In a statement yesterday, Touche said it believes the funds were transferred to accounts held with Citibank in Zurich, where it was used for Mr Nadir's personal purposes. Mr Morris believes that a substantial part of the sum was paid out through a web of offshore companies provided and managed for Mr Nadir by Confidas Finance et Placement.

The statement said: "Polly Peck contends that Citibank NA is liable to it in the tort of conversion that all three

defendants knew or ought to have known of Mr Nadir's fraudulent breaches of trust and are accordingly liable to account to Polly Peck as constructive trustees of misappropriated funds."

A spokeswoman for Citibank in London confirmed that the writ had been served. She said: "We believe that the administrators' proposed action is absolutely without foundation and we will be defending it."

Mr Nadir faces separate criminal charges of theft and false accounting brought by the Serious Fraud Office. Polly Peck collapsed in 1990 owing more than £1 billion.

Ford loss of \$7.4bn is the highest in American history

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

FORD Motor Company plunged a record \$7.4 billion into the red, as losses at its European operations almost doubled last year to \$1.3 billion.

The figure is the worst loss in US corporate history. However, General Motors is expected to reclaim that title soon with a loss last year of more than \$2.3 billion. Both carmakers' figures have been affected by US accounting changes that require future pensions and health costs to be charged against profits.

For Ford, that figure was \$7.5 billion, but it also charged \$419 million for cutting 10,000 jobs in Europe last year. Some on Wall Street were sceptical that the huge costs were all related to healthcare. Some believe budget overruns on launches of new models had also been included in the figures.

Phillip Fricke, an analyst with Prudential Securities, said: "There's an awful lot of clearing out of desk drawers been going on."

Without special charges, and helped by an 11 per cent rise in the profits from financial services, Ford would have trimmed annual losses from \$2.3 billion in 1991 to \$501 million last year. Europe ac-

Europe accounted for the bulk of the \$1.5 billion that Ford lost on cars and trucks, with Britain deeper in the red last year as market share slipped 2 percentage points.

counted for the bulk of the \$1.5 billion lost on cars and trucks. It remains Ford's bleakest market after Japan.

Ford refuses to release separate figures for Britain, but it is understood losses worsened as its share of the UK car market dropped almost 2 percentage points to 22.5 per cent. Jaguar lost about \$400 million. Ford said this was slightly better than the previous year.

Jacques Nasser, chairman at Ford of Europe, said yesterday: "It will certainly be some time before we can expect any relief from the pressures experienced in 1992. It is almost impossible to predict the outcome this year, with little prospect of a significant upturn before the final quarter of 1993."

Ford expects total industry car and truck sales to drop 8.7 per cent in Europe this year to 13.7 million. Last year, the number of trucks and cars sold in all Ford's main European markets declined, but the loss in Britain was the lowest, at 2

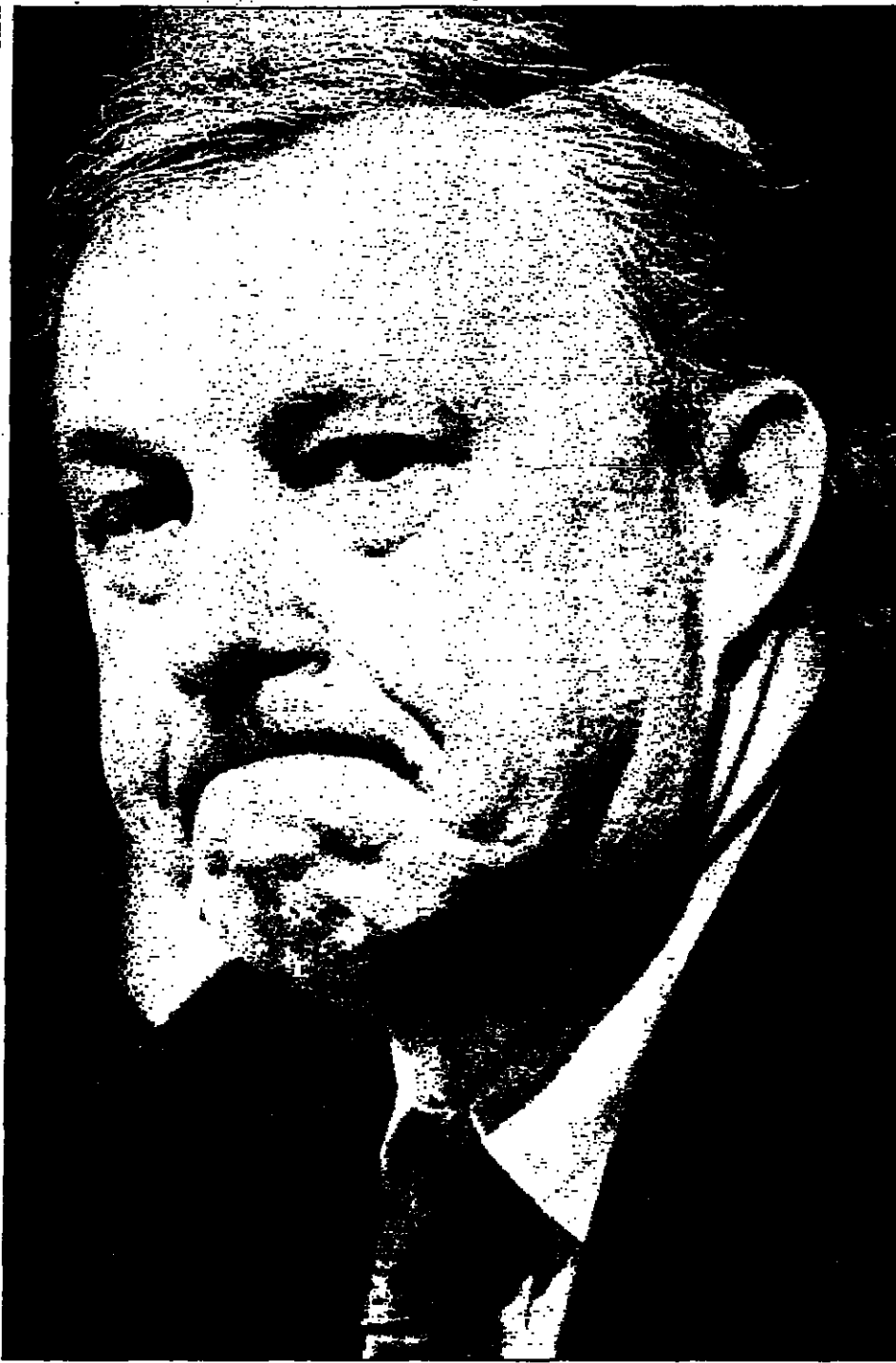
per cent, and compared with Germany's 5 per cent drop and Spain's 8.7 per cent decline.

In Japan, sales plunged 30 per cent, but Ford and General Motors have backed away from wanting full-scale retaliation over the barriers imposed on their cars by Japan. Both had been poised to call for a government enquiry into the alleged dumping of Japanese cars in America.

Ford said it was doing better in the US, picking up market share in North America as sales rose 15 per cent to almost 3.6 million trucks and cars. It now has 21.8 per cent of the car market and 29.7 per cent of all truck sales.

Harold Poling, the Ford chairman, said: "This was one of the most unusual years in our business because of the economic uncertainties around the world and the one-time items that affected our financial results."

Tempos, page 25



Designer of a still-troubled group: Sir Terence Conran left the company he created in 1990

Dworkin leaves Storehouse stronger yet still struggling

BY CARL MORTISHED

DAVID Dworkin, brought in to salvage Storehouse fortunes, joins a long list of those who never quite overcame the problems of Britain's most ill-starred retailer.

Where others failed completely, however, Mr Dworkin made substantial progress towards rehabilitation. But even after that, Storehouse has much to do before it can earn anything like a decent return to shareholders.

Storehouse shares fell 4 per cent on the announcement that Mr Dworkin was leaving the company to join Carter Hawley Hale, a troubled fashion retailer on the American West coast. Storehouse, which owns BHS and Mothercare, has lost almost £50 million of its stock market value since rumours of Mr Dworkin's departure surfaced in America on Tuesday.

The invitation to join Carter Hawley Hale came from the Zell/Chilmark fund of Chicago, which took a 75 per cent

stake in the retailer when it was rescued from Chapter 11 proceedings last year.

Speaking in London, Mr Dworkin said the appointment of his successor was imminent. He described the market's reaction to the news as naive and said that Storehouse had a very strong management. Analysts believe the company will have difficulty in filling Mr Dworkin's place. He is credited with the turnaround of Storehouse, shares in which have doubled in the past year.

Julie Ramshaw, retail analyst at Morgan Stanley, says Mr Dworkin was central to the direction of Storehouse. "There is no heir apparent within the company."

Mr Dworkin's departure is a bitter blow to shareholders who have suffered a succession of disappointments and senior management changes since Sir Terence Conran merged British Homes Stores (BHS) with Habitat and

Mothercare in 1986. His vision of a broadly-based retailing conglomerate did not quite come to fruition and relations between Sir Terence and David Cassidy, BHS chief executive, were strained.

Mr Cassidy left the board when Sir Terence decided to appoint a new chief executive. But the designer was not a master of boardroom politics and lacked the skills to keep control of his retailing empire. Under pressure in 1988, he was replaced as chief executive by Michael Julien in 1988. He left the company in 1990, taking his Conran design business with him.

During the late 1980s, a series of bids for Storehouse failed. Mr Julien set about rationalising the business with closures of Habitat and Heals outlets. Profits collapsed from more than £60 million in 1989 to £33 million in 1990. Heals was sold to its management for £11 million.

Mr Julien could not, however, beat the recession - profits tumbled to £6 million in 1991 - and he left in May 1992 due to ill-health.

Mr Dworkin was taken on by Mr Julien to turn around BHS. Formerly chief executive of Neiman Marcus, the American retailer, he hired fellow American Ann Iverson to turnaround Mothercare. With a plan for BHS and Mothercare to be the group's twin pillars, Mr Dworkin sold Habitat and Richards for £108 million in October.

His return to America will please old friends at Carter Hawley Hale. The Los Angeles retailer was spun off from Neiman Marcus in 1987.



Past players: David Dworkin, left, and Michael Julien

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Boeing expected to cut 20,000 jobs

BOEING, the US aircraft maker that is expected to announce its 1993 employment targets soon, could cut as many as 20,000 jobs, including 15,000 in its home Puget Sound region. United States congressmen said after touring Boeing that the company had outlined some of the operations where the workforce would be cut without giving total layoffs estimates. But Mike Kreider, a Washington state Democrat, said he had been told that 15,000 jobs will be eliminated in Puget Sound and 20,000 companywide.

A Boeing spokesman had no comment, pending its forthcoming employment projection, and said: "At this point there's no date set." Boeing ended 1992 with a total of 143,453 employees, 98,603 of whom work in Washington state. Last month, the company said it would cut production across all its jetliner models by an average 35 per cent through to mid-1994.

'Unconvincing' Owners

AIRTOURS has accused its takeover target, Owners Abroad, the package holiday group, of putting up an unconvincing case for independence in a further document to shareholders. In response, Owners Abroad said that Airtours had still failed to provide any significant information on its strategy for the enlarged group and had failed to quantify any of the benefits Airtours claims will result from its £212 million hostile bid. David Crossland, the Airtours chairman, said Owners shareholders face an uncertain future under the present board.

BAA traffic grows

BAA, the privatised airport operator, said its airports handled 5.3 million passengers in January, an increase of 5.3 per cent on the month last year. Traffic at all three London airports rose: Heathrow traffic was up 6.1 per cent, Gatwick 4.2 per cent and Stansted 9.4 per cent. Edinburgh, Glasgow and Aberdeen increased their total traffic 3.3 per cent. There were gains in all market sectors other than domestic, which fell 3.2 per cent. Notable increases were North Atlantic traffic, which rose 8.9 per cent, and long-haul traffic, 8.5 per cent. European scheduled traffic rose 7.8 per cent.

Gillette pen bid cleared

GILLETTE has been cleared to complete its proposed £285 million takeover of the Parker Pen company after a Monopolies and Mergers Commission enquiry. Michael Heseltine, the trade secretary, said he had accepted the MMC's conclusion that the deal is not expected to operate against the public interest. Gillette, the American razor, stationery and toiletries maker, already owns Papermate and Waterman. Parker and Waterman make only refillable pens, while Papermate mainly makes disposables. Parker has been based in Britain since 1985.

Brook to sell loss-maker

BROOK Tool Engineering is selling its loss-making Cardinal Broach subsidiary to the management for £2.35 million. The sale will enable Brook to concentrate on its engineering activities, making items such as cutting tools and springs, and withdraw from making capital equipment. Brook also reported pre-tax losses in the year to September 30 of £3.1 million after exceptional costs of £1.2 million for redundancies, losses on disposals and bad debts. Last time, the company lost £1.7 million after exceptional costs of £311,000. Losses per share deepened to 7.3p from 3.3p. There is no dividend.

Ukraine links urged

THE EC must actively develop economic ties with the Ukraine and other former Soviet republics, or risk seeing them turn to the Far East or withdraw into themselves. The message came from Sir Francis McWilliams, the Lord Mayor of London, right, at a Guildhall banquet for Leonid Kravchuk, the Ukrainian president. Announcing a scholarship fund for Ukrainian students, he said it was important to realise that if business did not come to London, it could leave Europe altogether.



Costs overrun at Simon

SIMON Engineering has lost £5 million on its contract with Serinole Kraft, a subsidiary of Stone Corporation of America, to rebuild a liner board paper mill. Simon said the loss on the \$103 million contract would be reflected in 1992 results, due next month. The contract was nearing completion with machine handover achieved. "The complexities of rebuilding the world's largest liner board paper mill were, however, underestimated," the company said. No account had been taken of the substantial claims by Simon for additional work and contract variations, which are under negotiation.

Swedes buy Bricom

SECURUM, a subsidiary of Nordbanken, the Swedish state-owned bank, is to acquire all the shares in Bricom. The British freight group employs 2,500 people and has a turnover of about \$33.3 million. Bricom was owned by Garmstad and Yggdrasil of Sweden and the Norwegian Scandinavian Company. The three were unable to link up and are suing each other and the banks involved. "Poor owners and large disputes are not good for a company and that increases our risk as a creditor," said Securum's Björn Westberg. "By taking over the shares in Bricom we can protect our claim."

Jamaica fraud enquiry

HUGH Small, the Jamaican finance minister, confirmed that police have launched an investigation into an alleged multi-million dollar fraud at the central bank's foreign exchange operations, in Kingston. He said the authorities had discovered two forged cheques, allegedly signed by one of the bank's five foreign exchange agents and drawn on the bank. The cheques were for \$3 million and \$3.7 million. The minister said the agent involved is now believed to be out of the country. The government suspended the operations of all its foreign exchange agents on Monday.

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Notice is hereby given that a balance of the Register will be struck on Friday, 5th March, 1993 for the preparation of the half-yearly dividend payable on the FIRST PREFERENCE SHARES for the six months ending 31st March, 1993. The dividend will be paid on 1st April, 1993.
For Transferees to receive this dividend, their transfers must be lodged with the Company's Registrar, Lloyd's Bank Plc, Registrar's Department, The Causeway, Worthing, West Sussex, BN9 6DA, not later than 3.00 p.m. on Friday, 5th March, 1993.
Shell Centre London, SE1 7HA By Order of the Board
11th February, 1993 J.A. Conliffe Secretary

Guinness £5.2m was 'proper fee'

BY JON ASHWORTH

A £5.2 MILLION payment to Thomas Ward for his role during the bid for Guinness for Distillers was "a proper fee, honestly negotiated", an Old Bailey jury heard yesterday.

In his closing speech, Andrew Trollope, QC, for the defence, said the payment to Mr Ward was not only properly arranged but had been disclosed to the fullest extent deemed necessary. The money was well deserved in the light of Mr Ward's "extraordinary" achievements during the £2.6 billion bid.

Mr Ward, an American lawyer, denies stealing £5.2 million from Guinness.

The jury heard that Mr Ward was the architect of a "novel" arrangement under which Distillers pledged to reimburse Guinness's costs if the bid failed. Mr Trollope

reminded the court of the massive amount of money tied up in the bid, including costs of more than £120 million. "People were making very large sums of money," he said. Mr Ward's fee was "very reasonable" by American standards and deals were often struck on a handshake.

Earlier, Victor Temple, prosecuting, told the jury that Mr Ward could not afford to put his arrangement with Guinness in writing because it was "thoroughly dishonest". In a key part of his evidence, Mr Ward referred to a bank account in Washington - four months before it was actually opened. He had, Mr Temple said, forgotten that the account had not been open at the time.

The trial was adjourned until today.

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The master mechanic behind Intel's high-tech success

Evelyn Brodie
interviews the
new chief of
the world's top
semiconductor
manufacturer

Craig Barrett is the new chief operating officer at Intel Corporation, consolidating his position as one of the triumvirate running the world's largest semiconductor business. He is the first non-founder of the company to reach such a post — until 1990 the executive management consisted of the trio that founded Intel in 1968 — Robert Noyce, Gordon Moore and Andrew Grove.

When Mr Noyce died in 1990, Mr Barrett was promoted to executive vice-president, so many in the industry see his latest title as confirming him as heir apparent to Mr Grove, 55, the president and chief executive, despite the fact that Mr Barrett is 53.

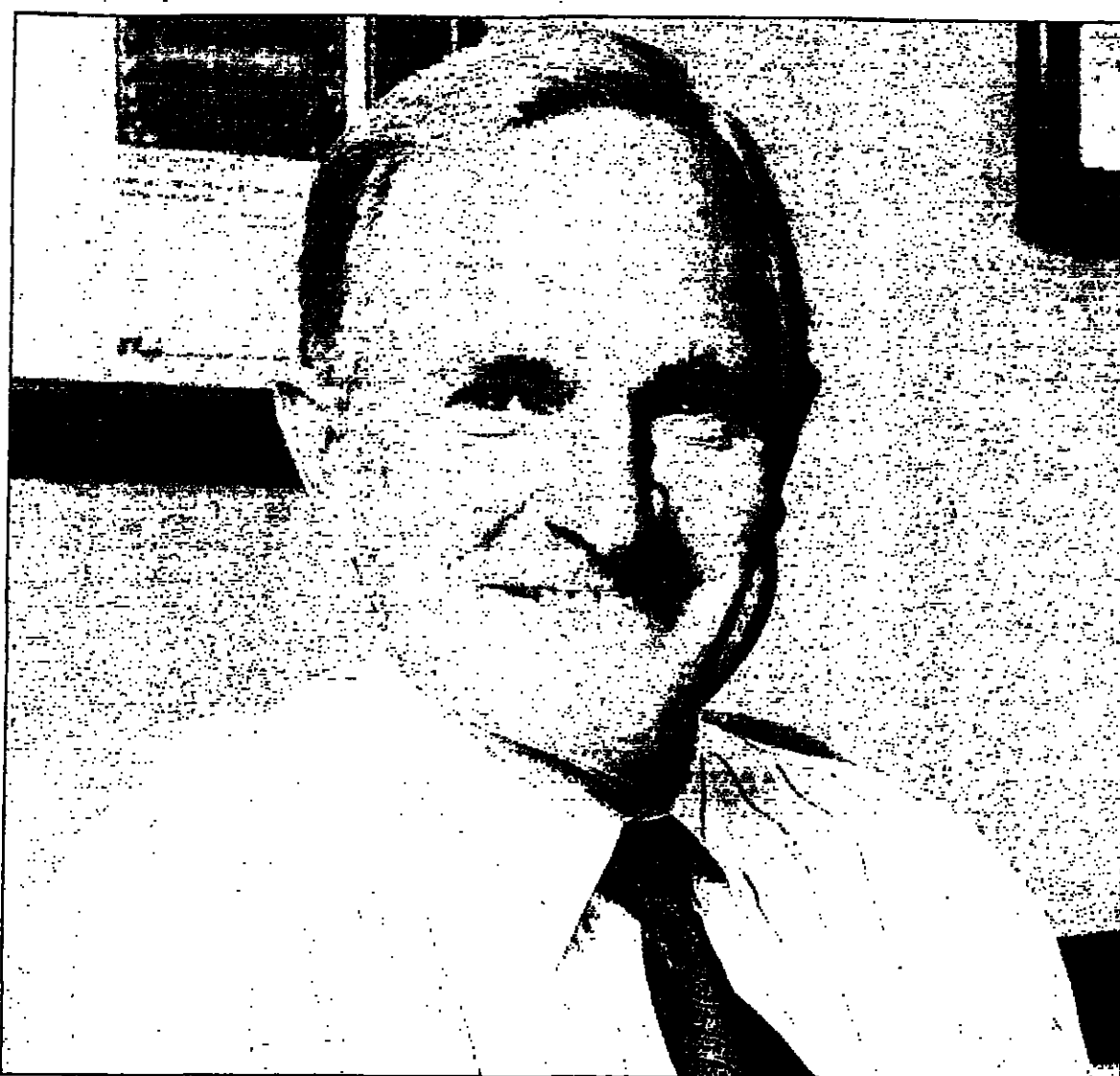
He is clearly uncomfortable with the label, and was startled when asked if he would like to be younger. "Heck no. I would prefer to look at it differently — if I were 10 years younger I probably wouldn't have had the opportunity to work with Bob Noyce, Gordon Moore and Andy Grove at the same intense level that I have — plus some of the other luminaries in the semiconductor industry — and I wouldn't have passed up that chance. Never look back on your life. It's fun, we're having a great time — titles are totally secondary in this game."

And it may be that at Intel titles do not count for as much as they do elsewhere. The whole corporate culture is egalitarian, with no special management parking spaces, canteens or even private offices. On the day of my interview, Mr Barrett, a tall, lean grandfather of four, was dressed casually, in slacks and a check shirt. "Hey this is it, this is the way we do business here. Generally there's a very casual atmosphere and the lines of communication are just like the clothes we wear. It's part of what makes the company run and work well, part of what aids the communications process — ideas float up to the top very quickly."

Analysis approve of this management style and the trio of top executives. Mark Edelson, at Prudential Securities, said: "There are three inter-related key elements to Intel's success — the management team, the vision of the company and the execution of the vision." Mr Grove is seen as the visionary force, Mr Moore focuses on technical and financial issues, while Mr Barrett concurs he is Mr Fixit. "I'm the master mechanic. My job is to get my fingernails dirty and go out and make sure the products move through the factories, that the products we want designed get designed on time, and into the market place, and that the company runs as smoothly as possible."

Intel's largest product is microprocessors, the brains of most of the world's personal computers. Together with other chips, they accounted for more than 80 per cent of revenues last year. Intel's first marketing breakthrough was in 1981, when IBM chose it to produce the chips for its personal computers. But despite IBM's star waning, Intel's has shone ever brighter, as the IBM compatibles or clones continue to be based on Intel chips. The marketing slogan "Intel inside" — was designed to convince the final consumer that it does not matter whether they buy a Dell, Compaq or IBM, so long as the chips are made by Intel, and the company is also constantly striving to produce loyalty in the PC producers who are its customers.

As a sign of its success, Intel has been the world's fastest growing leading chip company for five years. According to Datamonitor, the market research company, in 1992 the worldwide semiconductor market grew 9.8 per cent, while Intel's revenues grew 26 per cent. This allowed it to jump from number three to the number one semiconductor company in the world, with chip revenue of \$5.1 billion, ahead of NEC and Toshiba of Japan for the first time. But to sustain this kind of growth is expensive. More than a third of Intel's revenues are ploughed back into capital expansion and R&D programmes — capital spending is expected to grow 33 per cent this year, to \$1.6 billion, while R&D spending should expand by more than 10 per cent to \$900 million. Since mid-1990 the commitment to investment has allowed Intel to develop two new generations of microprocessors at a time. Pentium, success-



Driving force: despite the relaxed style, Craig Barrett says being at the top is no time to let up

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or to the 486 chip, has reached the manufacturing stage has been delayed until May. Now the Pentium's development phase has finished, the P7 project is being staffed, despite the fact that the P6, Pentium's successor, is still not fully specified. Mr Barrett says: "We're just running as fast as we can — always creating a new generation of products to eat the old. We're the ultimate cannibal — we eat our children as fast as we can breed. We are convinced our success will continue to be rapid introduction of technology, staying ahead of the competition, bringing consumers more computing power, and this alternating or leapfrogging design team concept is an integral part of that strategy."

The capability to process moving pictures, enhanced graphics and audio are some of the features that will become standard in the successor generations of microprocessors. "I think the real grab will be business communications, and that is bringing more than characters onto your screen. Why not put a \$50 camera and a \$500 adding board onto your PC and sit at your desk to conduct a conference? I think that will be a big, big application as we move forward in the nineties."

In addition to being credited with turning Intel's chip production process into one of the most efficient in the world, Mr Barrett has helped improve

customer relations, a topic on which he is defensive. In the past Intel had been accused of "starving" its customers of 386 chips in order to push the more expensive 486. But for the New Pentium chip, Intel designers visited every big customer and software house before starting work. As a result they had a list of 147 specific features customers wanted in the new chip — a task much easier to accommodate at such an early stage in the design process.

Does the scope for disappointing market expectations bother Mr Barrett? "What the stock market does tomorrow goodness knows. Being in this favour doesn't worry me because of the prospect of failure. It just gives a greater driving force towards being competitive. When you're at the top it's not a time to relax. Success here signals a call to arms as opposed to a time to relax and bask in the sunshine."

The 20 per cent of Intel's business that is not chips is split between flash memory, PCs, enhancement products and super-computers. "Ten years ago we took the corporate strategic objective to diversify out of the chip business because it's highly cyclical. The problem is that the chip business just keeps growing faster than the systems business. We are clearly looking at expanding beyond microprocessors into the branded products business, but we're not going to slow the chip business down to let the other half of the world catch up."

TEMPUS CU climbs on the cycle

COMMERCIAL Union has some nerve to ask investors for £428 million, which it brazenly admits will be immediately invested in equities until the company puts it to use in subsidiaries. If the group has such a bullish view of the stock market it could have simply sent its shareholders an investment note.

If its market judgment is wrong and the stock market suffers a sharp correction more than half of the rights money could be wiped from the value of its portfolio.

In reality, CU's rights issue was so widely predicted and discounted in the market that the company felt obliged to make its intentions public. Tony Brend, the chief executive, should not try to argue that the group needs the cash now. CU's premium income may have risen by £1.5 billion in 1992 but this was already covered by last year's two preference share issues worth £200 million.

Instead, he should openly admit that CU is exploiting an unrepeatable opportunity to steal a march on its rivals, an opportunity provided by its luck or skill in pulling out of the mortgage indemnity market six years ago. The rights cash gives the group the financial muscle to pile on additional business while other insurers are still struggling with losses.

Hopefully, the last four years have taught CU's management that pricing its premiums too aggressively to win business is the short road to ruin.

Even so, the age-old insurance cycle seems destined to exert itself once again. Investors have injected more than £1 billion into the insurance industry in the past year. At that rate, there will soon be overcapacity in the market once again with insurers offering bargains to policyholders and losses and uncovered dividends to their shareholders.

Ford Motor

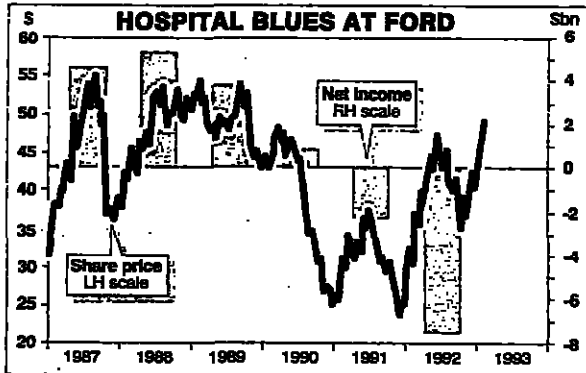
THE record \$7.4 billion loss at Ford tells investors nothing but the staggering expense of American healthcare. An accountancy standard such as SFAS106, which forces a company to estimate the cost of future healthcare for its employees, may appear to be prudent but is deeply flawed.

In fact, Harold Poling, Ford's chairman, had good reason to be upbeat about last year. If the \$7.5 billion healthcare provision is discounted, with other one-off accountancy and restructuring expenses, the company made a net profit of \$372 million, thanks to record earnings from financial services. This is hardly impressive on annual sales of more than \$84 billion but is a marked improvement on a 1991 loss of \$2.5 billion.

Ford is more than holding its ground against imports at home with a 1.7 percentage point rise in its market share to 21.8 per cent. But the group faces years of rationalisation before it achieves a reasonable return from its automotive division.

In Europe, the picture is bleaker. In the fourth quarter, sales in Germany

slumped 18 per cent, and the group expects industry sales in Europe to fall 8 per cent this year to 13.7 million. Even the new Mondeo model will not allow Ford to avoid the recession. While the group can only improve from such an impressive display of red ink, shareholders should not expect a miraculous turnaround just yet.



Lloyds Abbey Life

THE captive life assurance market that Lloyds Abbey Life expected to find in its parent bank is proving more elusive than it hoped since the banking code of practice makes it difficult for life assurance salesman to use the bank's customer data. The 24 per cent rise in profits at Black Horse Financial Services, which sells policies solely to Lloyds customers, is respectable but hardly the sort of exponential growth the business once appeared to offer.

A series of disappointments have stopped Lloyds Abbey fulfilling its early promise. Through the recession, profits have been pegged by losses from estate agency and bad debt provisions at Bowmaker. This year Transele, the German life company, is also a loss-maker. Admittedly the company does have considerable recovery potential. Even a modest improvement in the housing market would cut bad debts,

and boost estate agency revenue and endowment sales. Investors also hope that Lloyds will soon buy up the 40 per cent minority.

The market though has fully discounted either event. At 445p, the shares are trading on a prospective p/e of more than 21 on the most optimistic forecasts. Lloyds Bank would have difficulty justifying a bid of more than 470p a share for the minority, even in an unusually generous mood.

Split Fund

SCHRODERS' launch of a new split-capital investment trust is further evidence of their surge in popularity. Split-level trusts now trade on a 1.5 per cent average premium to net assets. The unpredictable investment climate rates will ensure split-level investment trusts remain attractive as investors can shift between different shares if economic conditions change.

Schroders have pitched the trust well. The initial target yield of 5.5 per cent is relatively low but sufficient to

offer attractive returns. This gives them greater scope for growth over the nine year life of the trust and the ability to invest in quality stocks.

The only real question mark hanging over this launch is Schroders' bullish view on dividend growth when UK plc is struggling to cover dividends.

Diamonds

DE Beers' Central Selling Office's announcement of a 1.5 per cent increase in diamond prices should not send investors rushing to the jewellers for a Valentine's Day gift. A fall in diamond demand from depressed major economies has coincided with increased supply from Angola and Russia, most of which is not passing through the De Beers' monopoly. This has led to a fall in real prices. The CSO has tried to reduce the flood of diamonds by cutting orders from its contracted diamond producers by a quarter but this has not been enough to counteract the new supplies. Unless it does, further price rises are unlikely.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Musical chairs

CITY oil analysts are on the move again. Rob Arnott leaves Hoare Govett to join SG Warburg Securities on March 8, filling the slot created by the defection of Roger Aylard to NatWest Markets last month. The Warburg oil team is now back to its full complement of four, with Arnott joining Gavin White and Alan MacDonald under Peter Nicol, head of oil research. Arnott is the first employee to leave Hoare since the ABN Amro takeover last year. "Unlike all the other oil analysts who change jobs, I will not be going to the Caribbean," he says, but plans a long weekend in The Netherlands instead. Arnott, 34, is one of the best qualified oil analysts in the City. With a PhD in geology, he still enjoys geological field trips and plans to lecture in Canada next year.

Going karting

MERCURY Communications, last year's winning team, will be trying to make it a double at the City Karting Challenge to be held on May 15 and 16. The 24-hour endurance karting event is organised by Bankers Trust, the US investment bank, which still has slots available for companies who want to contest the title along with teams from Bank of America, JP Morgan, Andersen Consulting and Goldman Sachs. A team of 12 people costs £2,000. The test will be held in South Victoria with the Docks to coincide with the opening of the LDCC Lime-



Commercial Union? Or cricket?

house link tunnel. Funds raised will go to the Turning Point and Bobarth Centre charities. Teams wishing to take part should contact Jane Cowell at Bankers Trust.

WITHIN days of St Valentine's, the green-shoot business seems to have decided that the economic situation is a better marketing ploy than the usual warnings about massively increased demand. All week, a florist on the edge of the City has been displaying a large notice: "Order your roses now. Due to recession, there may be a shortage on the wholesale market."

Flower adults

BOB Dylan's flower children have grown up and joined the enterprise culture. Dylan, 51, has been playing a series of concerts at the Hammersmith Apollo (the former Hammersmith Odeon) this week. Fans were subjected to the customary body search at the door on

Monday night, but once inside, it was obvious that at least six bootleggers had managed to sneak in video cameras and heavy-duty recording equipment — in one case by feigning pregnancy. After the show, leaflets were scattered around offering punters videos of the show for £22, or audio cassettes for £5. Sony, Dylan's record company, does not seem unduly worried by the recordings. A spokeswoman says briskly: "I've no idea whether they're legal or not."

LIQUID prizes were on offer at the Conservatives' winter ball on Monday night. Rudi Mueller, chairman of UBS Phillips & Drew, won the last prize of the evening's raffle — 600 pints of milk donated by the National Dairy Council. At 58, Mueller is past the stage when he needs milk for healthy teeth and bones, and so he will nominate a charity to receive it.

Bridge too far

THE long-standing rivalry between the Inland Revenue and HM Customs and Excise was highlighted recently in a "friendly" bridge match, which resulted in a 9-1 trouncing for the VAT collectors. The Revenue fourth team was not surprised at its triumph. Apparently, the personal qualities of a good bridge player, namely memory, intelligence, analytical skill and intuition, are identical to those of a Revenue employee. When asked how one can recognise a bad bridge player they replied: "Someone who shoots first and asks questions later."

WENDY VAISEY

Equities may have some way to go

From Mr Simon D. Baggett
Sir, I see that Tempus is warning (February 8) that UK equities "are already beginning to look dangerously overvalued".

So far as the FT-SE 100 index is concerned, it is currently only about 400 points higher than the peak it reached on July 16, 1987 (2443.4). I am therefore not entirely convinced that it does not have a little way further to go.

Much more importantly, I believe the following factors should also be borne in mind:

□ Dealing with P/E ratios on a historic basis is somewhat misleading given the immense squeeze on corporate profitability in the last year. This is particularly true of highly geared companies that have managed to survive the recession, and which now see

their interest charges halved. □ The yield on the all share index is still just over 4 per cent, with the effect that it compares favourably with most instant access accounts with building societies. □ A significant number of quoted shares not included in any of the major indexes are still trading at prices which are actually lower than those existing immediately after Black Monday in 1987, largely due to the fact that no one has been making a market in these securities for some years.

In the circumstances, whilst my crystal ball is no more reliable than anyone else's, I cannot help thinking that Tempus is being just a little too bearish. Yours faithfully, SIMON D. BAGGETT, 14 Figtree Lane, Sheffield.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Shape of the banana trade

From Mr David Perry

Sir, Mr Weiser (Business Letters, February 5) can hardly claim that Fyffes and Geest and Jamaica Producers "enjoy a virtual monopoly of the UK banana business". At best, what they enjoy is "a virtual triopoly".

This apart, I echo his sentiments.

Yours faithfully, DAVID J. PERRY, 45 Westgate, Trannemere Park, Guiseley, Leeds.

Ease age allowance regulations

From Dr Valerie Goldberg
Sir, I am delighted that correspondents are increasingly considering the plight of pensioners, who see their supplementary incomes fall while prices of staple goods continue to rise, and the effect of their declining spending power on the economy. If interest rates were to be raised again, as suggested, the "green shoots of recovery" would undoubtedly be crushed instantly. The government could best tackle the problem by revising the somewhat niggardly regulations governing the taxation age allowance.

Yours faithfully, VALERIE GOLDBERG, 6 Hollycroft Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.

Letters to The Times Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 071-782 5112.

SURREY BUILDING SOCIETY

The following revised rates of interest will apply from 11th February 1993

	GROSS CAR	GROSS PA	NET CAR	NET PA
SUPER PLUS ACCESS				
£75,000 OR MORE	7.50	7.36	5.60	5.52
£20,000 OR MORE	6.60	6.49	4.93	4.87
£10,000 OR MORE	5.55	5.47	4.14	4.10
£500 OR MORE	4.50	4.45	3.37	3.34
TESSA				
PLUS 3% BONUS ON 1ST YEAR'S SAVINGS	—	6.75	—	—
MONTHLY INCOME				
£25,000 OR MORE	5.80	5.65	4.32	4.24
£5,000 OR MORE	4.40	4.31	3.28	3.23
INSTANT ACCESS				
£15,000 OR MORE	5.47	5.40	4.09	4.05
£5,000 OR MORE	4.55	4.50	3.40	3.37
£500 OR MORE	3.53	3.50	2.64	2.62
£1 OR MORE	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75
SPECIAL PLUS ACCESS				
£500 OR MORE	4.00	3.96	2.99	2.97
SUPER PLUS OVERSEAS & CHARITIES				
£500 OR MORE	5.10	5.04	—	—

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

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ACCOUNTANCY

Green shoots flower at BT

By ROB GRAY AND DAVID OWEN

THE question is no longer whether companies need to publish information about their environmental performance. When organisations as diverse as the United Nations, the 100 Group of Finance Directors, the CBI and the European Commission are of one mind, the questions are only when and how.

There is a plethora of recommendations on how companies should approach environmental disclosure, what issues to include and how to report them.

But so far companies have ignored them and, until they become law, will probably continue to do so. Only about 30 per cent of larger organisations undertake any form of environmental disclosure. However, a minority of companies have nailed their colours to the mast.

In 1991, the Chartered Association of Certified Accountants (ACCA) established the environmental reporting awards scheme (Eras) to support development of fledgling corporate environmental reporting, and encourage and publicise fresh approaches.

The joint winners of the 1991 awards were British Airways and Norsk-Hydro, whose environmental reports showed a systematic and thorough review of core business, a

balanced view of environmental performance, independent attestation, widespread distribution and a commitment to publish in the future.

When choosing the 1992 winner, the judges again looked for an understandable and balanced report that dealt with core business. It also wanted something that was realistically attainable by most companies.

Eras 1992 received 30 entries. These included reports from Manweb, British Gas, British Polythene and National Westminster Bank, which are their first published attempts at serious reviews of the main environmental issues of concern to the organisation.

ICI, British Airways and IBM UK have all included information about their performance against published objectives - a welcome step forward. BP Chemicals, ICI and Dow provided detailed information about their environmental performance at plant level and how local employees and local communities are made aware of this data.

Financial data found its way into reports from BP (provisions for abandonment costs and contingent liability for the Exxon Valdez); Shanks & McEwan (provision for unprocessed waste) and the Body



Green with success: Chris Tuppen, environmental issues manager at BT

Shop (a page of relevant financial data). The rarity of integrated financial and environmental information is a source of concern.

The 1992 ACCA Eras Award was presented last night to BT for its BT and the Environment report, the company's first expedition into the field of environmental reporting. It is a clear and understandable document, which contains BT's environmental

policy and a review of legislation, recycling, waste, energy, emissions, purchasing, training and so on. Additional information is available.

Each section of the report contains data and defines targets. The systematic clarity of the report convinced the panel that the BT environmental report represented the sort of achievable and useful document that could be commended as a guideline to every

organisation in the initial stages of environmental reporting.

BT still falls short of the ideal. Its report lacks comparative and financial data, fails to integrate financial and environmental data and has no independent attestation.

Environmental reporting by British companies should not develop in isolation. Their experiences should be tied in with efforts made abroad, for instance by BSO/Origin (The Netherlands), Danish Steel Works (Denmark) and Noranda (Canada). More attention should be paid to the recommendations of, for example, the United Nations, the 100 Group of Finance Directors and the ICAEW's business and environment group.

If environmental reporting develops in ways like these, it may contribute to the crucial issues of accountability and sustaining our environment.

The authors are Professor Rob Gray of the University of Dundee, and Professor David Owen of the University of Huddersfield, both members of ACCA's judging panel.

the SPI from Nick Milner who becomes secretary.

Newly-qualified chartered accountants require a minimum wage of nearly £11,000 to break-even in London, according to a review based on the cost of a basket of goods. The London Society of Chartered Accountants, together with the Chartered Accountant Students' Society of London, say the cost for student chartered accountants living in London reached £8,350 by November, requiring £10,895 before tax and national insurance.

JON ASHWORTH

Biting the hand that has fed him so well

IT CAME as a bit of a surprise last week to discover Michael Heseltine does not see much value in accountants. After all, a considerable slice of his fortune came directly from realising what a dynamic bunch they were.

But first things first. In his speech to the Scottish division of the Institute of Directors last Friday, entitled "Wealth creators versus wealth managers" he produced all the old chestnuts about how German and Japanese industry is run by engineers and scientists, yet in the UK "the classic route to the top has been, above all, accountancy"; the old statistics which make it look as though the UK has "20 times more accountants per head of population than Germany or Japan". He then said he found it "hard to believe this offers us all the best way forward". He assured his audience he was "not suggesting accountants are unnecessary". After all, "my early time in

products, waded the membership directory of the English ICA at him and told him it was a mailing list. The result was *Accountancy Age*, the weekly newspaper central to the profession ever since. The Heseltine fortune was inextricably linked to the growth of the accountancy profession from then on.

In 1969, the membership handbook listed 45,500 members of the English ICA. The number is now 103,000. That growth and the growth in the profession's reputation has had much to do with Heseltine's original vision. As Saatchi recalled in 1989: "We thought 'here is another profession which is very bright but the publications dealing with it are super dull'. We thought 'this is the fast moving world of finance. Accountants are in the front line. Let's treat them like that'". It is a bit rich, now the young publisher has become trade secretary, to find he has forgotten how he helped transform the aspirations and achievements of the profession he now affects to despise and how it assisted his own wealth creation.

These are serious matters. His words have even managed to sting the English ICA into a spirited response. In an open letter, Ian Plaistowe, its president, deals with the canard of disparity in numbers between the UK, Germany and Japan by pointing out the figures for the latter two only include auditors.

Heseltine would have done well to have seen a recent television interview with David Tweedie, chairman of the Accounting Standards Board on *The Accountant's* Channel. He made the point that

"German accounting is fairly primitive and tax based. German companies are financed by banks and by families. They don't have to give information to the equity markets. And they don't". In other words such comparisons are a question of apples and pears. Plaistowe also made the point that accounting firms put huge resources into training, "to an extent which puts most of the rest of business to shame, in particular the engineering sector".

But the most telling commentary on the whole affair is to drive past Heseltine Towers, near Henley-on-Thames, and remind yourself of where wealth came from. If there is a contest between wealth creators and wealth managers, in his case the wealth creators have definitely been accountants.

The author is Associate Editor of *Accountancy Age*



ROBERT BRUCE

Ernst not for the high jump

CAUTION appears to have come before valour at Ernst & Young which has pulled out of a charity abseil at the 11th hour. E&Y had promised its York House offices in London to the Spastics Society for a 120 ft high sponsored abseil on February 21, but announced on Friday that it was withdrawing its offer. "They said it was something to do with their health and safety policy," says a spokesman for the Spastics Society, which will now be using a building on High

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Holborn for the stunt. E&Y has left itself wide open to some predictable gibes from Price Waterhouse which last summer ushered more than 1,000 people down the side of its 330 ft Southwark Towers. A spokesman said: "The height involved was only 120 feet anyway, barely worth the bother of roping up".

On parade

SOME hefty fire-power has rolled in at the Society of

Practitioners of Insolvency with Edward Lowndes' appointment as general secretary. A fellow of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, he was formerly director of resources for the Paymaster in Chief (Army) - a post which put him in charge of a budget of £14 million and 1,000 civilian and military staff worldwide. At one point, he was finance officer to the Sultan of Brunei's armed forces, with a £100 million budget. He takes over at

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Law Report February 11 1993 Chancery Division

Champagne misrepresentation established but no damage proved

Taittinger and Others v Allbev Ltd and Others
Before Sir Mervyn Davies
[Judgment February 8]

Notwithstanding that the marketing by the defendants of a non-alcoholic sparkling fruit drink clearly labelled "Elderflower Champagne" in bottles usually associated with champagne amounted to a misrepresentation that was calculated to deceive, the plaintiffs' passing-off claim failed since they had not established a likelihood of substantial damage to their reputation and goodwill.

Moreover, in European law, to implement a branch of article 15(5) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 823/87 (OJ vol 84 March 27, 1987 p59), as amended, in accordance with the substantive rules of English law it was necessary to consider whether or not, in the discretion of the court, there should be an injunction restraining the defendants from infringing article 15(5).

Since Community law, by referring to English law, afforded the court that discretion, it would be exercised so as to keep the situation the same as in English law and, accordingly, no relief was to be afforded under Community law.

Sir Mervyn Davies, sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division, so held when dismissing a passing-off action brought by the plaintiffs Taittinger, suing on behalf of itself and of all other persons who produced wine in the Champagne district of France and shipped such wine to England and Wales, Comité Interprofessionnel du Vin de Champagne and Institut National des Appellations d'Origine, against the defendants: Allbev Ltd; Guy John Corbett Woodall and Sheila Woodall, trading as Thornycroft Vineyard.

Mr Charles Sparrow QC and Mr Nicolas Bragge for the plaintiffs; Mr

Stuart Isaacs, QC and Mr Neil Calver for the defendants.

HIS LORDSHIP said the first plaintiff was a corporation established according to the laws of France. It was a producer of champagne and shipped much of its product to England.

The second plaintiff was a body established with legal personality under the laws of France. Among its purposes were those of defending the interests of persons involved in the production of wines sold under the appellation d'origine Champagne, with powers to sue and be sued.

The third plaintiff also had a legal personality under the laws of France with powers to sue and be sued. Its powers included the regulating of the production of wines and other products entitled to use French appellations d'origine and of defending such appellations.

The first defendant was a producer and wholesaler of fruit wines and cordials. Predominantly it produced traditional non-alcoholic drinks rather than wines but there was some production of wine as well.

The second defendant advertised, marketed, distributed and sold by wholesale the products provided by the first defendant, including a product sold as "Elderflower Champagne".

An injunction to restrain the defendants from (i) selling, offering for sale, distributing and/or advertising and whether in advertisement or on labels any beverage not being wine coming from the Champagne district of France under or by reference to the words "champagne" or "champaigne", (ii) in any other manner passing off any beverage not being wine coming from the Champagne district of France as champagne or as a beverage the same as champagne.

An injunction to restrain the defendants from acting contrary to Council regulations of the European Community and in particular Regulation (EEC) No 823/87 by using the word "champagne" for the description and presentation of a beverage other than wine produced in the Champagne district of France where there was a risk of confusion as to the nature, origin or source and composition of any beverage.

A declaration that the production and marketing of elderflower champagne contravened EEC regulations directly applicable in England and in particular Regulation (EEC) No 823/87, as amended, and damages for passing off.

The Lordship said that he approached the claim with the guidance given in *Warnink (Erven) Besloten Vennootschap v Townsend & Sons (Hull) Ltd* [1979] AC 731, 742 where Lord Diplock had said:

"The case makes it possible to identify five characteristics which must be present in order to create a valid cause of action for passing off: (1) a misrepresentation (2) made by a trader in the course of trade (3) to prospective customers of his or ultimate consumers of goods supplied by him (4) which is calculated to injure his business or goodwill of another trader (in the sense that this is a reasonably foreseeable consequence) and (5) which causes actual damage to a business or goodwill of the trader by whom the action is brought or (in a *quid tunc* action) will probably do so". See also *Stringfellow v McCain Foods* [1984] RPC 501, 533, 535.

Mr Sparrow contended that the defendants were making a representation that elderflower champagne indicated some connection between the defendants' business and the plaintiffs' business.

Some of the considerations in favour of a finding of misrepresentation were:

(a) the defendants' product was sold in a bottle that looked much like the usual champagne bottle (b) the front label stated explicitly that the bottle contained "Champagne" because that word was separately printed below the differently printed word "Elderflower" (c) "Champagne" was printed and placed on the label just as many of the champagne bottles shown to his Lordship (d) the defendants' product was sold not only in health shops but also elsewhere, for example, Sainsbury's (e) the defendants claimed to be selling an old English drink known for many years as elderflower champagne was said not to be justified because the old recipe for elderflower champagne showed a fermented beverage whereas that of the defendants was carbonated.

The defendants pointed to the following matters as indicating that there had been no material misrepresentation:

(i) to see a bottle sold as elderflower champagne was to see a bottle of a well known English drink. His Lordship's own view was that no doubt there were some in country parts who knew of elderflower champagne as an old English beverage but their number must be few as opposed to the many who knew of elderberry wine (g) the defendants had not received any complaints from the public to the effect that a buyer of elderflower champagne supposed he was buying champagne (h) the front label of the bottle stated, albeit in small capitals, that the bottle contained natural non-alcoholic sparkling refreshment.

Balancing those considerations, it was clear that the labelling of the defendants' product constituted a misrepresentation. Thus the first of the characteristics referred to by Lord Diplock was established and there was no difficulty in regarding characteristics (2) and (3) as also present.

By analogy with *J. Bollinger and*

Others v The Costa Brava Wine Co Ltd [1961] RPC 116, 125 it was necessary to consider whether some of the public were likely to be misled by the marketing of the defendants' elderflower champagne.

The evidence of the plaintiffs of course showed that the defendants' misrepresentation was calculated to deceive. But if that evidence was put aside his Lordship came to the same conclusion.

The average man seeing a bottle of elderflower champagne would see the word "champagne" conventionally printed according to the custom of the champagne trade. He would then see a price of £2.45. That would cause him to examine the bottle more closely.

His Lordship was satisfied that any ensuing inspection of the labels would dispel any initial belief that the bottle contained champagne.

However, his Lordship was speaking of the average member of the public whether educated or not in the matter of wine. But there was another section of the public.

There was the simple unworried man who had in mind a family celebration, and knew that champagne was a drink for celebrations.

He might know nothing of elderflower champagne as an old cottage drink. He might well suppose he was seeing champagne. He would know little of prices and was likely to suppose he had found champagne at a price of £2.45.

His Lordship found it established that the misrepresentation was one calculated to deceive but did not consider that Dr Woodall intended to deceive. That finding, however, was of no service to the defendants as to (1) to (4) of the *Warnink* characteristics because intent was not a necessary ingredient of the tort of passing off.

As to items (4) and (5) mentioned by

Lord Diplock, it was necessary to consider whether it was a reasonably foreseeable consequence of such misrepresentation that it would cause actual damage to the plaintiffs' business or goodwill.

In the present case there was no specific evidence of damage done to the reputation or goodwill of the champagne houses: see the *Warnink* case (at pp755 and 756) and *Reckitt & Colman Properties Ltd v Borden Inc* [1990] 1 WLR 491, 499.

His Lordship considered that the effect on the plaintiffs' reputation would be nil or minimal because those who bought elderflower champagne in the belief that was champagne made up a very small section of the public.

Furthermore there was no indication of any large scale enlargement of the defendants' operation and the plaintiffs had not established a likelihood of substantial damage.

The plaintiffs also claimed an injunction by reference to European law. His Lordship was referred to Council Regulation (EEC) No 823/87 which laid down special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions. That regulation had been amended by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2043/89 (OJ vol 202 July 14, 1989 p1) and by Council Regulation (EEC) No 3896/91 (OJ vol 368 December 31, 1991 p3).

His Lordship set out recitals 17, 19, 20 and paragraphs (1) (2) and (5) of article 15 of the 1987 Regulation, as amended by article 13 of the 1989 Regulation.

Out of the complicated verbiage of the regulations there arose in the instant case the question whether or not article 15(5) allowed the use of the term "elderflower champagne" for the description and presentation of the defendants' goods, that is, "a beverage

other than a wine or grape must". It was allowed only if there was no risk of confusion as to the nature, origin or source and composition of such beverage with champagne.

On the footing that there was a legitimate interest pursuant to recital 2 of the 1987 Regulation, Mr Isaacs submitted that the protection of an injunction suffered no actionable damage. His Lordship said it was arguable that an injunction ought not to go for a breach of article 15(5).

Mr Isaacs' second submission as to the granting of an injunction in aid of a breach of article 15(5) involved reference to two European authorities: *Case 45/76 Comet BV v Produktschap voor Siergewassen* [1976] ECR 2043, 2053 and *Case 205/82 (1982) Deutsche Milchkontor GmbH v Germany* [1983] ECR 2633, 2634.

No doubt the facts of those cases were far removed from the present case but against their background the submission was that in the present state of Community law, including the absence there of any guidance as to the implementation of article 15(5), it was for the English court to act in accordance with English procedural and substantive rules when considering the protection of rights acquired by Community law.

However, his Lordship did not think that the question whether or not an injunction should go by reason of a breach of article 15(5) was a procedural matter. It was a matter of substantive law.

In the *Milchkontor* case one saw that when implementing Community regulations, there being no common rules to which his Lordship was directed, the court had to act in accordance with the substantive rules of English law.

Solicitors: Monier-Williams; Batten & Co. Yeovil.

Power of county court to extend time

Ward-Lee v Lineham

Before Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Hirst
[Judgment February 9]

Where an application for a new tenancy under section 24 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954 had not been served on the landlord within the time specified by Order 7, rule 20 and Order 43, rule 6(3) of the County Court Rules (SI 1981 No 1687 (L 20)) and no application had been made within that period for an extension of time, the county court might in an appropriate case exercise its discretion to extend time under Order 13, rule 4 and to treat such failure as an irregularity which might be cured under Order 37, rule 5.

The Court of Appeal so held allowing an appeal by the tenant, Beryl Ward-Lee, from Judge Lovegrove, QC, at East Grinstead County Court, who had dismissed her appeal from the refusal of the district judge to extend the time for her to serve the application of a new tenancy of the premises at Edgeland, Kent, on the landlord, Collette Lineham.

The tenant had requested and the landlord had in principle agreed to the grant of a new tenancy. However, the county court failed to serve the subsequent application under section 24 of the 1954 Act on the landlord. The omission was not discovered until after the time prescribed by Order 7, rule 20 and Order 43, rule 6(3) for service or for an extension of time had expired.

Mr T. M. Fancourt for the tenant; Mr Ben Patten for the landlord.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS, giving the judgment of the court, said that although the existence of a discretion for the county court to extend time had at first been challenged, counsel for the landlord, in argument, had not contended that there was no discretion, only that the court's discretion could not have been properly exercised in the tenant's favour on the present facts.

The court referred to Order 7, rule 20 and Order 43, rule 6(3) of the County Court Rules which provided the relevant time limits for service and extensions of time, and which corresponded with Order 6, rule 8 and Order 97, rule 6(3) of the Rules of the Supreme Court and, in turn, with Order 13, rule 4, corresponding with Order 3, rule 5 of the Rules of the Supreme Court and to Order 37, rule 5 which corresponded with Order 2, rule 1 of the Rules of the Supreme Court.

The court considered *Kleinwort Benson Ltd v Bank of London* [1987] 1 All ER 397, where the House of Lords, in *Bank of London v Kleinwort Benson Ltd* [1987] 1 All ER 397, held that the power to extend the validity of a writ was to be exercised only for good reason, a less stringent test than that of "exceptional circumstances" previously favoured.

Where an application for extension was made after a writ had expired, an applicant had not only to show good reason for the court to exercise its power to extend but also to give a satisfactory explanation of his failure to apply for extension before the validity of the writ expired.

The court had no doubt that that

reasoning should be applied by analogy to Order 7, rule 20 of the County Court Rules.

The court also considered *Lewis v Wolking Properties Ltd* [1978] 1 WLR 403, *Robt Boreland Ltd v Devon Holdings Ltd* [1982] 1 WLR 1385, *Bernstein v Jackson* [1982] 1 WLR 1082 and *Leal v Dunlop Bio-Processes International Ltd* [1984] 1 WLR 874.

From that review of the authorities and the rules, the court concluded that even where an originating application of the present type was not served or an application for an extension was not made within the appropriate time limits, the county court had jurisdiction, on proper grounds, to extend the time for service until after the period for service had expired. It would have been most unjust if she were to pay the penalty for the court's error.

That conclusion opened the door to more general matters relevant to the exercise of discretion.

Time limits on claims were intended to be short; it was incumbent on parties to comply with them and if extensions were granted at all readily the time limits would quickly become a dead letter. That was not to be the case in the present case.

Considering all the circumstances of the case, there were strong grounds for granting the extension sought.

Since the court was satisfied that the judge's exercise of discretion had been demonstrated wrong, it was entitled to substitute its own exercise of discretion and the appeal would be allowed.

Solicitors: Luffluff & Ainsworth, Sutton; Stephens & Sains, Truro.

requirements of justice in some cases.

It was one thing to say that good grounds had to be shown to justify a certain exercise of discretion but quite another to say that the court was to exercise its discretion by holding that it could be exercised only one way.

The tenant had discharged the burdens of showing good reason for the court to exercise its power to extend and of giving a satisfactory explanation for the failure to apply for an extension before the validity of the proceedings expired.

She had taken the correct steps to issue her originating application in good time; it was entirely the fault of the county court that the proceedings were not served until after the period for service had expired. It would have been most unjust if she were to pay the penalty for the court's error.

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Solicitors: Luffluff & Ainsworth, Sutton; Stephens & Sains, Truro.

In re Kenish Homes Ltd

Before Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor

[Judgment January 29]

Community charges for which a company was liable which had been incurred after the date of liquidation and were not provable as a debt in the liquidation could not be recovered from the liquidators as a liquidation expense thereby achieving priority over other unsecured debts.

Sir Donald Nicholls, Vice-Chancellor, so held in a reserved judgment in the Chancery Division on an originating application issued by Roger Arthur Powdrell and Nicholas Roger Kyle, the joint liquidators of Kenish Homes Ltd.

The respondents were the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, Security Pacific National Bank, Halifax Building Society, Roger Howard Oldfield, Christopher Timothy Esmond Hayward and Mark Christopher David Knapton.

Miss Sarah Harman for the liquidators; Mr Benedict Patten for Tower Hamlets; Mr Simon McManus, QC, for Halifax Building Society and the receiver appointed by it of the company; the fourth, fifth and sixth respondents did not appear and were not represented.

THE VICE-CHANCELLOR said the issue raised concerned the remedies available for the recovery of community charges from a company when the liability arose after the company had gone into liquidation. From April 1993 community charges were being replaced by council tax but the same

problem would exist in relation to that tax.

In the late 1980s when the property market was flourishing, the company embarked on a residential and commercial development of a site in Docklands in the Borough of Tower Hamlets. In order to develop the site the company was granted a facility of some £40 million by the Halifax Building Society.

By summer 1989 the property market in Docklands was beginning to wilt and the company encountered financial difficulties as a result of which the Halifax appointed a receiver. By then the indebtedness of the company to the Halifax was about £25.5 million.

On August 3, 1989 the company went into creditors' voluntary liquidation and the applicants were appointed as liquidators.

In order to minimise its loss the Halifax proceeded with the development of a large part of the site and sell some 151 self-contained flats. The flats were completed and later sold by the receiver some months after the company had gone into liquidation.

Under the initial Government Finance Act 1988 the company, as freehold owner of the flats, was liable to pay standard community charges in respect of each flat from six months of completion until sale. In consequence, the company was liable to pay Tower Hamlets a sum of £70,000. The liquidators sought the direction of the court on how the company's liability for the charge ranked in the winding up.

There would not be a difficulty if the period in respect of which the community charge was payable pre-dated the commencement of the winding up since the charging authority could either distrain or present a winding-up petition. In

the latter case the amount due would be provable as a debt in the liquidation, the authority ranking as an unsecured creditor.

However, in the present case the company's liability for the community charge was not provable as a debt in the liquidation of the company since it fell outside the provisions of rule 13.12(1) of the Insolvency Rules (SI 1986 No 1925). It was neither a liability to which the company was subject at the date of liquidation nor a liability to which the company became subject after that date by reason of any obligation incurred before that date.

The incongruity of that conclusion was notable. It was one thing to find that a debtor was unable to pay. The law provided creditors with remedies, although it was a matter of everyday experience that in many cases creditors found that the remedies yielded no fruit. That, unhappily, was a creditor's misfortune: the law could not produce money where none existed. But it was an altogether different thing to find that the law provided no remedy at all when an obligation to pay money was not met, even though the debtor might have assets.

Accordingly, Tower Hamlets asked the court to direct that the sums due to it be paid by the liquidators as expenses in the winding up of the company. The obligation to pay the community charge was an obligation of the company and it arose while the company was being wound up.

However, directing that the charge be paid as a liquidation expense ahead of all the unsecured creditors whose debts were provable would be to go from one extreme to the other.

It might be regarded as unfair to Tower Hamlets that it could not prove for the post-liquidation

charges even though it still had to provide services. But it would be equally unfair to prefer Tower Hamlets ahead of all of them in a case where the liquidators had had no use of or control over the assets in respect of which the charges arose.

It would also be wrong for the court to direct payment of the community charges as a liquidation expense with a view to enabling the liquidators to have recourse against the receiver.

If a direction for payment as liquidation expenses were made in that circumstance, the purpose and effect would be to enable Tower Hamlets to achieve indirectly, via the liquidators, what it could not achieve directly by a claim against the receiver.

A taxing authority could not compel a receiver to make payments in accordance with section 109(8)(b) of the Law of Property Act 1925. That subsection did not create a statutory duty enforceable by a local authority: *Liverpool Corporation v Hope* [1938] 1 KB 751.

His Lordship considered whether there was any way in which the court, which was being asked to exercise its discretion, could achieve a result which lay between the two extremes, but none occurred to him.

Accordingly, he would make a declaration that the company was liable to Tower Hamlets for standard community charges in the amounts in question for the relevant periods, that the obligation was an unsecured debt, but that the amount due was not provable as a debt in the winding up of the company. He would not direct the liquidators to pay those charges as an expense in the liquidation.

Solicitors: D. Freeman & Co; Mr R. A. Joy, Tower Hamlets; Hammond Suddards.

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Solicitors: D. Freeman & Co; Mr R. A. Joy, Tower Hamlets; Hammond Suddards.

European Law Report

Accidental uranium diversion 'serious'

Advanced Nuclear Fuels GmbH v Commission of the European Communities
Case C-308/90

Before C. N. Kakouris, President of the Court of Justice, and Judges G. F. Mancini, F. A. Schöck, M. Díez de Velasco and P. J. G. Kapteyn

Advocate General F. G. Jacobs (Opinion November 19, 1992)
[Judgment January 21]

The provisions of the EAEC Treaty which sought to prevent the diversion of nuclear materials from their intended uses were fundamental to the attainment of the task of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom), therefore any failure to observe those rules constituted a serious infringement.

The Court of Justice of the European Communities so held in dismissing an application by Advanced Nuclear Fuels GmbH ("ANF-Lingen"), a company established in accordance with German law at Lingen in the Federal Republic of Germany, for the annulment of Commission Decision 90/113/Euratom of August 1, 1990 relating to a procedure in application of article 37 of the Euratom Treaty (OJ No L209, August 5, 1990, p27).

It was not disputed that as a result of a series of errors at the applicant's premises in early May 1990 two containers containing quantities of uranium and enriched uranium had mistakenly been sent by air to the parent company ANF-Richland, at Seattle in the United States.

ANF-Richland having discovered that the supposedly empty

containers in fact contained nuclear material immediately informed ANF-Lingen which in turn informed the Commission's safety inspectorate and the Euratom supply agency of the circumstances.

In accordance with its view of the gravity of the infringement of article 79 of the Euratom Treaty which had thereby been committed, the Commission adopted the disputed decision whereby, pursuant to article 83 (1)(a), it placed the undertaking under administration for a period of four months, for (a) failing to give advance notification of export; (b) breach of the regulations on recording inventory changes; (c) breach of the regulations on operating records regarding changes in quantities and changes in the composition of nuclear material.

ANF-Lingen applied to the Court for the annulment of that decision on the grounds first that the facts in the case did not constitute an infringement of the obligations laid down in Chapter VII of the Treaty. It also maintained that the sanction of being placed under administration was unlawful because it had been applied at a time when any infringement which might have been committed had been brought to an end. Finally, it considered that the sanction imposed was disproportionate and that the Court should substitute the lesser sanction of a warning.

In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities held as follows:

Commission Regulation No 3227/76 (Euratom) of October 19,

1976 concerning the application of the provisions of Euratom safeguards (OJ No L363, December 31, 1976, p1) simply defined the nature and scope of the obligations referred to in article 79 of the Treaty.

It followed that any failure to fulfil one of the obligations laid down in that regulation constituted an infringement of article 79 and could thereby give rise to the adoption by the Commission of one of the sanctions laid down in article 83 with regard to any persons or undertakings responsible for such infringement.

It was not disputed that during the period of May 11 to 14, 1990 the nuclear materials referred to in the accounting and operating records did not correspond to those physically present at ANF-Lingen's premises. The quantities in stock due to the accidental export in question had not been recorded until the export had been discovered.

Thus for three days those accounts did not show all the variations in stock in order to enable the amount of the stock to be determined at any moment and all of the processing information used in order to establish variations of the quantities and the composition of nuclear material.

The fact that the nuclear fuel had been permanently under the control either of ANF-Lingen or of ANF-Richland did not alter the fact that, contrary to the obligations laid down in article 10 and 11 of Regulation No 3227/76, the Commission had been hampered in its monitoring tasks.

Neither had it been disputed that the export concerned had

taken place without the Commission having been notified in advance as required by article 24 of Regulation No 3227/76.

The fact that the export had been carried out inadvertently could not alter that finding.

Confirmation of the infringement was sufficient to hold that article 83 laid down the sanctions which the Commission might adopt according to the seriousness of the infringement found without distinguishing whether or not the infringement had been brought to an end.

Moreover, as the Commission had correctly pointed out, article 83 ensured the effect of the Chapter VII of the Treaty by granting that institution extended powers with regard to the adoption of sanctions.

That purpose was in accordance with the intention of the authors of the Treaty in giving the Commission the means necessary to carry out, in particular, the task of the Community as defined in article 2(a) of the Treaty, namely to make certain that nuclear materials were not diverted to purposes other than those for which they were intended.

In those circumstances the Commission might adopt the disputed measure even where the infringement had already been brought to an end.

The provisions seeking to ensure that nuclear material was not diverted for purposes other than those for which they were intended were intended were fundamental to the accomplishment of the mission of Euratom, as specified in articles 1 and 2 of the

Treaty. In that context, respect for the rules monitored by the Commission was essential with articles 77, 79, 81 and 83 of the Treaty was essential.

It followed that any failure to observe those rules by an undertaking constituted a serious infringement.

The fact that the various infringements committed by ANF-Lingen had arisen from an exceptional concatenation of circumstances could not be relied upon in order to justify a less severe penalty.

On the contrary it was apparent from many national legal systems that, in such cases, it was appropriate to impose the most severe of available sanctions.

Moreover, the necessity of the disputed sanction was demonstrated by the fact that it enabled the Commission to impose measures in order to avoid similar infringements from being committed in the future.

In the context of its task, the board of administrators could give precise instructions and



THEATRE page 32
Frances de la Tour gives
a virtuoso performance
in a Japanese play at
the Lyric, Hammersmith

ARTS

GALLERIES page 33
Evelyn Silber: assistant
director of Birmingham's
Gas Hall gallery, which
will open in October



CINEMA: Geoff Brown looks in vain for Woody Allen's genius in *Shadows and Fog*

Don't follow Woody, he's lost

Shadows and Fog
 Lumière, 15
Olivier, Olivier
 MGM Swiss Centre, 15
The Living End
 Everyman, MGM
 Piccadilly, 18
Stay Tuned
 MGM Trocadero,
 Plaza, PG
Sherlock Jr
 Barbican, U
City Lights
 Camden Parkway, U



Off on a perilous journey: the young Olivier (Emmanuelle Morozof) in Agnieszka Holland's *Olivier, Olivier*, which shows a family devastated after a child disappears

Woody Allen has been able to make his films with a freedom denied almost every other current American director. The story, the casting, the budget, the editing: Woody's word was law, even when the company bankrolling him, Orion Pictures, was strapped for finance, gasping for life. If normal conditions prevailed, the extraordinary *Shadows and Fog*, a mood-drenched homage to German Expressionist cinema with a box-office potential close to zero, would simply not exist.

In chronological terms, this comes before *Husbands and Wives*: the pressure of tabloid headlines pushed that brittle analysis of imploding marriages ahead in the British release schedule. Devoted followers, at least, will have much to chew over in the meandering tale, shot in rapturously authentic black-and-white, set in a fearful, fogbound European town of the Twenties beset by a mysterious stranger.

Citizen Allen, afraid enough of his own shadow without bothering about anybody else's, is part of a vigilante group: yet, Kafka-like, he never knows what his duties are. As Allen creeps through cobbled alleys to tart soundtrack chunks of Kurt Weill, prostitutes, cops and priests criss-cross with folks from a travelling circus. There is talk of God, existence, sex, love and marriage: the usual Allen repertory, spiced with one-liners and feats of magic.

And the cast stretches like a string of pearls: Mia Farrow (a sensitive sword-swallower, lost in the fog), Madonna (blink, and she's gone), John Malkovich (the circus clown), Kathy Bates, John Cusack, Lily Tomlin, Donald Pleasence. "I'm performing an unusual amount of autopsies!" Pleasence mutters behind horn-rimmed specs in a mad doctor lab to end them all.

General audiences, though, can only be bemused by the brooding tone, the wispy plot without an ending, the starchy players in small, sometimes unprofitable parts. As for Allen's dazzling audio recreation of German Expressionist cinema's visual motifs and fatalistic mood, this is of largely academic interest. "A family, that's death to the artist", Malkovich tells Farrow, who wants to commit to marriage and motherhood. *Shadows and Fog*, strange, adventurous, but lost in a cul-de-sac, proves that insularity can be fatal too.

Supporting *Shadows and Fog* is *Damier's Law*, a 15-minute cartoon from the admirable Geoff Dunbar, based on the drawings of Honoré Daumier, with music by Paul McCartney. Another British short, Benjamin Rees's effective seaside yarn *My Little Eye*, props up Agnieszka Holland's *Olivier, Olivier*.

Holland, born in Poland but now working in France, has an aggravating habit of finding fascinating subjects, only to muffle their potential on the screen. This happened in *Europa, Europa*: what could have been a startling tale about a Jewish boy's life in the bosom of Nazi Germany became as easy on the eyes as a television movie. It happens again with *Olivier, Olivier*: another real-life story, another case of an uninquisitive camera, of sharp edges smoothed over.

In provincial France, the young Olivier (Emmanuelle Morozof), his mother's darling, bicycles off to deliver lunch to his grandmother. He never returns; no body is found. Six years later, the family's cohesion shattered, a 15-year-old male prostitute picked up in Paris con-

fesses to being Olivier. He comes back home, to his mother's delight and the doubts of sister Nadine. His missing years are a blur, he says: just memories of train stations. And why can he now play the piano? The tale, inevitably, ends with a sting.

Europa, Europa pleased many, especially in America. Maybe the story of *Olivier, Olivier*, which Holland found in newspaper cuttings, will pull viewers through. The actors are certainly persuasive, especially Grégoire Colin as Olivier mark two and Brigitte Kollan as his overwrought mother. But Holland never lets her script take visual flight: the camera sticks close to faces, squeezing out all sense of time and place. What could have been a deeply mysterious tale becomes modestly intriguing, almost prosaic.

No chance of drab normality in *The Living End*: this aggressive feature from Gregg Araki, low-budget wonder boy of American independent cinema, does everything but spit in our face. After accidentally killing a policeman, the main characters, both HIV-

positive, embark on a wild, aimless tarmac odyssey. Luke (Mike Dyrl) is borderline crazy, a drifter; Jon (Craig Gilmore) is an impressionable writer, preparing what sounds like a ghastly piece on the death of cinema. As they hare along highways and hunker down to gay sex, the film builds into a raucous hymn

'The usual repertory, spiked with one-liners and feats of magic'

under your skin. An insolent, powerful movie, this, not for those who like drollies round life. With Woody Allen all wrapped up in existential angst, the week's quotient of riotous laughter must come elsewhere. *Stay Tuned*, directed by Peter Hyams, takes one of the most wizened satirical targets, American television, and applies a novel Faustian twist. Devil's emissary Jeffrey Jones sells couch potato John Ritter a massive television set with 939 lines and a giant satellite dish that sucks potato and wife right into the warped television programmes on screen.

One minute they are menaced by wolves in a silly Alaskan drama; the next, they find themselves mice, chased by a RoboCat in a cartoon spoof created by animation genius Chuck Jones. Pointlessly shot in the wide screen format, *Stay Tuned* is too juvenile and contrived to summon more than a few quick chuckles. But at least there is no time to get bored with a film that includes spoof television programming such as *Meet the Manosons*, *Autopsies of the Rich and Famous* and *Driving Over Miss Daisy*.

If modern helter-skelter comedy

grates, you can still revisit the silent old masters, who knew the secrets of pace, precise timing and structure. Keaton's *Sherlock Jr* for instance, is being revived for two weeks in a new sepia print. Few silent comedies dovetail logic and fantasy so well as this gloriously inventive 1924 feature. Buster, a cinema projectionist, aspiring lover and amateur detective, falls asleep on the job and mingles with the film being screened. John Ritter regularly earns praise for his physical comedy; but put him beside Keaton, fighting to keep pace with the screen's changing background, and he shrivels into dust.

Meanwhile, City Lights makes a special appearance this Sunday under the "Live Cinema" banner at the wonderfully welcoming Camden Parkway, with the Chaplin score played live by the Royal Ballet Sinfonia. Only Chaplin could concoct a story about the tramp's devoted love for a blind flower-seller; only Chaplin could successfully leap from delicate feelings to raucous slapstick and social satire. Chaplin's original opening sequence, never screened theatrically before, is an added attraction. Performances at 3.30pm and 7.30pm: go and enjoy.

ARTS BRIEFING

He loved Paris, it loves him

FRENCH chauvinism seems to be indefinitely suspended, at least as far as American musicals are concerned. Hard on the heels of *Hello, Dolly!*, which set Paris whistling this winter, a new production of *Kiss Me Kate* has just opened in the City of Light. The director is the man who has brought musicals back to Paris, Alain Marcel. He was one of the main forces behind the revival of the Châtelet theatre — where *Hello, Dolly!* was put on — as a home of musicals and opera.

His new production, at the Mogador, has had an enthusiastic reception: *Le Monde* said its chorus-line was perhaps the best that Paris has ever seen. Cole Porter would have been pleased: he lived in Paris in the Twenties, wrote one of the most famous songs about the city, and even served briefly in the French army.

Back to Belfast

THE internal upheaval at Radio 3 — instigated last year by the incoming controller, Nicholas Kenyon — is clearly not over yet. As the network struggles to come to terms with the implication of "Producer's Choice", news comes that Adrian Thomas, the head of the Radio 3 music department, has resigned. After less than three years in the job, he is returning to his former haunt, the Queen's University in Belfast, as the professor of music. That appointment starts next year; in the meantime, Thomas is rushing out a book about Henryk Gorecki, whose Third Symphony is unexpectedly high in the pop charts. "I understand well his wish to return to writing and then to university life," said Kenyon.

BRITAIN'S longest cathedral nave — at St Albans Abbey in Hertfordshire — will shortly become one of the country's biggest art galleries, at least for four days. As part of the abbey's 1,200th anniversary celebrations this summer, the nave will be cleared of chairs and transformed into a massive exhibition hall, showing the work of hundreds of local artists as well as a Henry Moore sculpture and, it is hoped, a watercolour by the Prince of Wales. Sir Hugh Casson will open the exhibition, which runs from May 19 to 23 and is expected to attract 10,000 visitors.

Last chance...

IN HIS ballet *The Snow Queen* David Bintley has chosen to emphasise the Oedipal overtones to Hans Christian Andersen's tale of the evil Queen who seeks an innocent child to warm her icy kingdom. The sexual implications are disturbing and the drama is particularly effective; no fairy-tale cuteness here. Birmingham Royal Ballet's run of *The Snow Queen* continues at Sadler's Wells Theatre (071-278 8916) until Saturday.

TELEVISION: Daniel Johnson on Nazi experiments in racial purity

A sinister consequence of abandoning the idea that man was created in the divine image is the reduction of humanity to biology. The metaphorical gives way to the physical, the individual to the race. In our time it may be hard to grasp the appeal of Nazi racial theory; but in its day it could offer

Unhappy families

concrete advantages to large numbers of people. Childless German couples, for example, could adopt a child from an "inferior" nation, such as the Poles, whose "Aryan" characteristics had been identified

and classified precisely by SS experts. Based as it was on purely impersonal considerations of preserving the racial stock, this system did not need to take account of the feelings of the child or its parents. Some 200,000 such children were abducted from Poland and resettled in Germany; many more, whose faces or profiles did not fit, perished.

Last night's *Timeswatch* — *The Stolen Child* (BBC 2) retraced the steps by which two cousins, Alojzy and Leon Twardcki, were taken from their families at the ages of four and ten respectively, given new German identities: names, parentage, birthdays and every other detail in their papers were forged.

The age differential was decisive for their very different fates. Leon, who had been assigned to a children's home run by the SS, managed to return to his home town immediately after the war — only to find his parents dead. He was adopted by his aunt, Alojzy's mother, married, and became a paterfamilias, with grandchildren. Even after such good fortune, he says he is an unhappy man.

Alojzy's tale was both more improbable and sadder. Happily ensconced in a family of good Nazis at Koblenz, having

forgotten all about his past, he found himself one day confronted by a letter from his mother (she had written often before, but the grandfather had intercepted her letters). Angry the boy tore it up; a year later his German mother died, and he longed for the warmth she had given him.

At the age of 16 he was allowed by his adoptive father to visit his real mother. Initially cold and aloof, Alojzy eventually warmed to this evidently indomitable lady and decided to stay in Poland. But he had not bargained for the communist authorities confiscating his West German passport and refusing to allow him out of the country for three decades. The letters from his abandoned German father were, in their way, as moving as his Polish mother's had been. As Alojzy said, he lost a family twice in one lifetime.

Contemplating these two harrowing biographies, admirably recounted in a well-researched programme, it is impossible not to be glad that the postwar division of Europe ended in 1989. What was done to these children and their families was the purloining of their past — the denial of everything that makes a person unique and irreplaceable. Cruelty on such a scale can never be undone; but the eternal in man always somehow survives, as it seems to have done here.

"SUPERB MOVIE MAKING ... MESMERISING."
"FIRST RATE CAST" "IMMACULATE ACTING"
"IMPECCABLY DIRECTED, INTELLIGENTLY WRITTEN AND SPLENDIDLY ACTED."

Jeremy Irons a film by Louis Malle Juliette Binoche



Desire. Deceit.

Damage

Miranda Richardson

ALL BASED ON THE FILM BY LOUIS MALLE. CASTING BY MIRIAM MALLER. PRODUCTION DESIGNER: PETER BODD. MUSIC BY JACQUES MONTEUX. EDITOR: JACQUES MONTEUX. DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: PETER BODD. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: JACQUES MONTEUX, PETER BODD. PRODUCED BY JACQUES MONTEUX AND PETER BODD. WRITTEN BY JACQUES MONTEUX AND PETER BODD. BASED ON THE NOVEL BY JACQUES MONTEUX AND PETER BODD.

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LONDON THEATRE: Benedict Nightingale is impressed but not moved by a Japanese play

Anguish at a distance

Greasepaint
Lyric, Hammersmith

ONSTAGE, Frances de la Tour was feeling guilty, and so, in a smaller way, was I in the audience. Had I any reason but sloth and insularity to resist the 80-minute monologue with which she was launching a Japanese season at the Lyric? She was giving a strong performance as an actress still grieving for the son she abandoned years ago; and Hisashi Inoue's text clearly came from the heart. Indeed, the programme told us that he himself was an orphan, given away by a mother whose parting words were, "there are bushes where you can leave your child in the hope that someone will find and look after him, but there are none for the mother". How could I or anybody else not respond to this play?

Part of the problem was probably its length, but part its remoteness. De la Tour's Yoko Sasaki is preparing for what she tells us is the last performance her "taishu engeld", or variety company, will be able to give, since its theatre is being replaced by an office block. Having plastered her face with smears of white, gashes of green and dabs of red, she leaves her dressing room, apparently to take part in a remote tea-house in his long-lost mother. Already we are flailing about for cultural signals and, no doubt, missing them. If a Japanese were to see a play mourning the death of something distinctly British — pier-end vaudeville, say — he might feel the same.

Yet that is hardly enough to explain why I, for one, was left relatively cold when Yoko started drawing parallels between her own life and the events of *The Farewell Journey of Izaburo*, as the melodrama is called. The truth, as she acknowledges in passing, seems to be that her rejected son became a railwayman and was killed by a train. But then she imagines he is a star actor and has materialised in her dressing room. With de la Tour on her knees, gawking pleading with this phantasm to forgive her, why did a sound of mass sobbing not rise from the stalls? I could theorise that the play-within-the-play, Izaburo's *Farewell Journey*, had already deprived the idea of maternal loss of much of its truth and power. Yet somehow I don't convince myself.

Greasepaint at least gives de la Tour a sustained opportunity to show her emotional as well as her technical paces. A bit of a *de la tour de force* ensues. Gradually it becomes clear that the performance for which Yoko is preparing is all in her mind. Offstage, bulldozers rumble; onstage the exotic drapes and bunting come tumbling down; and she is left hugging her non-existent son, a wall of "mother" rising from her authentically anguished lips. But was I moved? Alas, no. What is wrong with me?



Frances de la Tour: shows her emotional as well as her technical paces

Devil-worship carried on in Thornton Heath?

Sex Magic? Raising Hell Old Red Lion

The production, by Miller himself, is pretty well acted. David Hargreaves, a sweaty overage skinhead, brings a bug-eyed intensity to the ludicrous Crowley, and Adam Lewis, a talented actor new to me, does everything asked of him. The trouble is, what is asked of him is a confusing mix. He must be the nervous acolyte, submitting to pastiche sex and sadism; he must act out every role, male and female, in the flashbacks in which Crowley nostalgically indulges; and then he must turn from abject disciple

into master, and from master into what appears to be a parody of New Age commercialism.

In the process we learn a bit about Crowley's life, principally that he was the victim of Plymouth Brethren parents, and in particular of a mother who, Miller claims, terrorised him with threats of eternal perdition. It was her matronly growls of "you're the beast, you'll burn in the flames of hell" that launched him on his life-long hunt for Whores of Babylon and their ilk. If you are going to be damned, you

might as well be damned with style; or so Crowley seems to have concluded.

Yet Miller's play flails and flounders in its search for dramatic focus, and never more blatantly than at the end. Suddenly Crowley is less a comically corrupt madman, more a pioneer of New Age thinking who is too rough and raw to survive in our sick world. He impotently rails and rages while his acolyte butters up Melvyn Bragg and Martin Amis at literary parties. Indeed, the last image is of Hargreaves expiring for a second time in the gutter while Lewis imperturbably taps out his impending best-seller on his laptop.

That last-gasp attempt at social satire seems symptomatic of the play's problems. Why is Crowley interesting? What does he signify? Why write about him at all? Miller just cannot decide.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Running in, not yet there

THIS little cafe-theatre in Battersea is a survivor. The 75-minute family drama currently showing is its 110th production. While after-dinner spoofs, satires and musicals have played their part on the dramatic menu, the present offering provides the toughness of sibling rivalry, filial angst and parental reproach required for a healthy theatrical diet.

The author, Daniel Scott, was short-listed for a national newspaper award for his play *Below the Belt*, on the fringe at last summer's Edinburgh Festival. This play betrays the marks of post-success haste. Perhaps, like the usual second novel, it has been retrieved from a bottom drawer; for, while the author has a feeling for the claustrophobia of intense family relationships, the plot is sketchy and the characters incomplete.

In part this stems from technical limitations. In the small acting space (the scene is a living room, furnished in admirable detail) the cast is tempted to a casual naturalism that verges on the off-hand. Lines are mumbled when they should be pointed, reactions blurred when they should be sharply defined. Above all, this has the odd effect of leaving the family in a social vacuum.

The dead man whose widow and two sons throw a commemorative

The Rabbit
La Bonne Crêpe,
Battersea

party on the parents' wedding anniversary was apparently a distinguished journalist. The family allegedly has a cosmopolitan background. But the characters come over as small-scale and suburban.

Of the two brothers, Hugh is a successful Euro-businessman, based in Milan and married to an Italian. Martin has stayed at home, has been treated for depression and is currently adrift professionally and personally. Guilt feelings towards his dead father are egged on by his mother who in turn is driven to despairing anger by her sons' lifelong rivalry.

The rabbit of the title was bought for them jointly when they were children. Unable to share, they broke its neck in a tug-of-war. The curtailed coney is evidently a symbol of family life, where, as the mother remarks, "there's always someone to blame".

Much of this sounds like a rough try-out for a more developed work. Some of the plot's devices are tantalisingly arbitrary — the fleeting references to a daughter who died, for example — and some of the characters are unfinished though promising, like the dead journalist's drunken colleague, Paul Prescott directs an as yet unfocused cast.

MARTIN HOYLE

Bordering on success

THIS Earls Court theatre began last month a season of new plays by women that will continue until July. This is a large-scale enterprise for a fringe venue but excellent policy when possible, generating a kind of rare commodity: the play by a woman. *Foreign Lands* has already been well received and the current play, by Naomi Wallace, is evidence that the season will not necessarily centre on "women's problems". That is a sneer commonly levelled against plays by women, and if not voiced all too commonly assumed — that where men can write about women tremendously well, women write best about their own sex. The great increase in women playwrights over the past dozen years, writing on every subject under the sun and under the sheets, exposes this slur as mean and false.

Wallace's characters are three young Texans spending another night watching for illegal immigrants crossing the border from Mexico. When they catch sight of some wretch wriggling through the wire they turn on the car headlights and go after him. Or her. For every capture the FBI (presumably the FBI) pays them \$10. Sometimes they allow the immigrants through to be caught by FBI agents. Why? At other times they appear to enjoy a bit of roughing up or rape, and the previous

The War Boys
Finborough Theatre,
Earls Court

week something "messy" seems to have occurred.

Fry Saxty's design for this strip of desert, covers the stage with dusty, pinkish cloth rising to a mound where a predatory glimmer like the eyes of a predator stare. The men are also predators — American patriots, it is true, but not above trying to masturbate from start to climax while another of their number recites the troublesome story of Oath of Allegiance.

David (Ethan Flower), is a self-hating, cynical young lawyer, lording it over George (Matthew Sharp), who pastes billboards for a living, and Greg (Bradley Lavelle) who sweeps out the local library. Greg is also half-Mexican, leading to some inevitable soul-searching and a rather too convenient exploration of racial issues. Presenting all three as 100 per cent whites would have made the causes of intolerance harder to articulate but might have led the author to dig deeper.

For a first play, however, the work is accomplished, not yet deft at running speeches in parallel but pushing at the boundaries of form when each man's address to the audience is subjected to criticism from the others. The lighting is quirky but Kate Valentine's direction keeps the acting urgent.

JEREMY KINGSTON

LONDON

ROYAL BALLET. The only newly created work of the 1992-93 Covent Garden season is premiered this week. David Bintley's *Tombeau*, an abstract work set to William Walton's Variations on a Theme by Hindemith, forms the centrepiece of a triple bill which also includes the sensational *Stravinsky* and *Polka* by Fokine and William Forsythe's cranking and aggressive in the middle, somewhat elevated.

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE. Queen's Garden, WC2 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

LONDON PHILHARMONIC. With Klaus Tennstedt, the LPO's performance (in German) of Haydn's *The Creation* is now in the capable, but rather different, hands of Neill. Anthony Rolfe Johnson and David Wilson-Johnson. This is a repeat of Tuesday's performance.

FAIRFAX HALL, South Bank, London, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. The talented conductor Carlos Noguera directs the orchestra in Beethoven's *Concerto for Oboe and Piano* and Beethoven's First Symphony, in between which Emanuel Feuermann plays Beethoven's First Piano Concerto.

SAUNDERS WESTON. Although usually a great admirer of Monk, pianist Steven Wilson went on to explore African and Caribbean music from a jazz perspective in the name of Grand and forthright. During his time in North Africa in the late 60s and early 70s, Wilson turned out a flurry of excellent recordings. Now continuing a commitment to his African heritage, he collaborates with Ghanaian musicians from Morocco, blending North African rhythms with jazz.

ARTISTS AND ADMIRERS. Ostrovsky's sharp, affectionate picture of theatrical life in Russia circa 1880. Lovely performance. The Fitz, Barbican Centre, St. Paul, EC2 (071-928 8800). Today, 3pm and 7.15pm. 150mins.

BARNUM. Aggressive showbiz musical, with Paul Nicholas leading the high wire. Bouncy numbers by Cy Coleman and Michael Stewart. Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-550 8845). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed and Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

CYRANO DE BERGERAC. Robert Lindsay looks not as the usually charming hero but the production is too dull to give enough room to the full poignancy of the late Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Wed and Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

THE DEEP BLUE SEA. Rodgers' play on infatuation set to high gear. Enthralling production by David Hare. Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm. 140mins.

HAY FEVER. Very funny performance (not always where you expect) in Coward's excellent comedy. Albany, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (071-937 1115). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 150mins.

AN IDEAL HUSBAND. Anna Carter, Hannah Gordon and Martin Shaw in Wilde's "insider dealing" melodrama. Some dated asides but stylishly done. Globe, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-491 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat. Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. 105mins.

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY. Larks in the hospital common room: mutton outraged, doctors flummoxed. Joy Cooney (now with lots of love) in Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-439 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 135mins.

KING LEAR. Solid, respectable performance by Tom Wilkinson in a low-powered staging by Mark Sandford-Cook. With Siobhán Redmond, Hugh Ross, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-720 1745). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 135mins.

KISS OF THE SPIDER WOMAN. Tremendously glib production of the Kander & Ebb musical. It concerns the values of Manuel Puig's novel and Chris Rivers makes a striking cameo.

NEW RELEASES

DAMAGE (18). MP Jeremy Irons pursues a destructive affair with his own son's fiancée (Julianne Moore). Rerelease version of Jonathan Hare's novel, newly directed by Jonathan Hare. Barbershop, 071-438 8881. Chances (071-351 3742/3743). Coruscant West End (071-438 4385). Empire (071-487 9999). Galle (071-727 0403). Odeon Kensington (0426 914668). Screen on the Hill (071-435 3346). Brown on Baker Street (071-435 3346).

THE END OF THE GOLDEN WEATHER (PG). Twelve-year-old befriends a simpson during one holiday New Zealand summer. Joy Cooney (now with lots of love) in Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-439 4401). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm, mat. Thurs, Sat, 3pm. 135mins.

FOLKIES (PG). Family problems drive Tom Selick almost as crazy as his son's father. Horrible, but funny. Comedy, with Don Ameche. Director, Ted Kotcheff. Odeon Kensington (0426 914668). Mezzanine (0426 915683).

HONEY, I BLEW UP THE KID (U). Amiable, rerelease of Steve Reid's sequel, with Ted Danson as the accident-prone dad with a 100-foot tail to who heads for Las Vegas. Director, Ted Kotcheff. Odeon Kensington (0426 914668). Mezzanine (0426 915683).

THE PUBLIC EYE (15). Life, times and longings of a tabloid photographer in the

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Karl Knight

Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.

BLACK THEATRE CO-OPERATIVE. The company stages Leonora's Dance, a new play by British playwright Zindia. The destinies of four women are bound within a house of spurs. Jonathan Maynard directs a cast including Doreen Blackstock, Judith Hepburn and Jo Mann.

COLEPORT, Coleridge Street, NWS (071-402 5351). Open tonight, 7pm. Mon-Sat, 8pm, Sun, Mat. March 6.

THE ART OF WATERCOLOUR. 1993 is shaping up as the "Year of the Watercolour", with the Royal Academy's spectacular show leading the way. Twelve forget that the Royal Watercolour Society has been there almost as long as the Academy. It was in fact founded in 1804 by dissident RA's who felt their favoured medium was insufficiently regarded by the senior institution. In 1980 the society's collection of more than 600 watercolours was placed on long-term loan with the SA, this show picks a hundred of the most notable.

BRISTOL. The Bournemouth Orchestra's principal conductor, Thomas Vassily directs the players in a programme of Rossini (overture, The Barber of Seville; Mozart (excerpts from Don Giovanni for wind solo); Schubert (Symphony No. 2), and is soloist in Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto. Colston Hall, Colston Street (0272 223882), 7.30pm.

GLASGOW. Mary Chapin Carpenter, the singer-songwriter from Washington D.C. gives the first of four British dates which also hope will gain her popularity here. Carpenter has been ranked alongside John Lee, Bonnie Raitt and Nanci Griffith by American critics and won a Grammy award for the recent single "Down At The Twisted And Shout". Pavilion, (041-332 1848), 7.30pm.

SHEDFIELD. Simon Williams, Nicky Henson and Alison Fiske head a strong cast in Michael Rudman's revival of Donizetti's *Years*. Michael Frey's excellent comedy of an Oxford reunion. Crucible, Norfolk Street (0742 789222). Preview tonight, 7.30pm; opens tomorrow, 7.30pm, Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, Sun, Mat. March 6.

WYTHENHAM. Roger Haines returns to the Forum to direct the northern premiere of Sonnet's sharp, satirical farce *My Mother's Boy*. The "central of what you wish for in cases you get it". Forum, Civic Centre (01904 610100). Tues-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm, mat. Wed (Feb 17) and Sat (Feb 27), 3pm, until Feb 27.

HOUSE 111. Carol Hinds in Sam Mendes's memorable PSC production. Deodar Warehouse, Colston Street, WC2 (071-287 1150). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Sat, 3pm. 190mins.

THE SET UP. Kerry Sher's tour de force, playing all the tough characters in this classic American poem about Red lighting in Twenties New York. Gate, 11 Pentonville Road, W1 (071-229 0709). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat. Sun, 3pm. 140mins.

STAGES. Hauling performance by Alan Bates as the washed-up artist in David Storey's elegy for lost times and places. Lichfield Avenue, South Bank, SE1 (071-228 2228). Tonight, Sat, 8pm, mat. Sat, 4pm. 105mins.

TRAVELS WITH MY AUNT. William Gower, John Wells, Richard L. Taylor, Christopher Gee play all 26 parts in G.H. Hargreaves's marvellous adaptation of Graham Greene's *The End of the Affair*. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-367 1118). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mat. Wed, Sat, 3pm. 140mins.

THE TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA. David Storey's writing revival, Thelma, style, both comic and romantic, delightfully. Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (071-438 8801). Tonight, 7.15pm. 105mins.

LONG RIVERS. C. Blood. Barbican, Theatre (071-438 8801). C. Blood. Barbican, Theatre (071-438 8801). C. Blood. Barbican, Theatre (071-438 8801).

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ENTERTAINMENTS

CINEMAS

CURSON MAYFAIR. Curzon (071-455 4555). Curzon (071-455 4555). Curzon (071-455 4555).

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THEATRES

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Gas bills make way for Goyas

GALLERIES: Joseph Williams on a plan to make Birmingham a regular stop on the international exhibition circuit

Birmingham is really getting Brummies on seats. In a three-week stint last year, the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company pulled over 17,000 people. Birmingham Royal Ballet's attendance figures average 88 per cent, and Symphony Hall's are running at 70 to 90 per cent. Over £800,000 has been spent on public art in the city centre alone.

But what is all this construction work going on in the centre? Burly men in hard hats snoop over tarps, dust swirls in the air, drills rattle, hammers bang into nails. Just a stone's throw from the rebuilt Victoria Square, due to open this spring, a graceful Edwardian municipal building is being con-

Anthony Sargent, head of arts and entertainments at Birmingham City Council, believes that the gallery will be able to "do for the visual arts in Birmingham what Symphony Hall has already done for music. Without Symphony Hall, we wouldn't have seen some of the world's leading orchestras coming to Birmingham. The whole cultural fabric of the city is being renewed."

The new gallery — an 80-year-old listed building — is associated more with gas bills than Gainsborough. It is known as Gas Hall, where older generations will remember coming to pay their bills in cubicles. Sited immediately beneath Birmingham's Museum and Art Gallery, Gas Hall suffered significant damage to its entrance area during the second world war. The new gallery will become part of the main museum.

Why is Birmingham creating yet another arts venue, almost on the heels

of other major refurbishments such as the Hippodrome, the Alexandra and Birmingham Repertory Theatre? Evelyn Silber, assistant director at the city's main museum, claims that in the past, important exhibitions — often international ones — simply bypassed Birmingham for want of a suitable large-scale venue. "I remember co-organising an exhibition of Jacob Epstein, which opened at Leeds City Art Gallery in 1987, and then transferred to London's Whitechapel. We really wanted it to open in Birmingham, but we physically couldn't accommodate it. The list

simply wasn't big enough to fit the sculptures."

"When we do mount shows, we have to take out large chunks of our permanent collection. The British Art Show was held here in 1984, but the whole of the 20th-century and part of the 18th- and 19th-century galleries had to be removed."

Gas Hall will offer around 1,100 square metres of exhibition space. The gallery will mount exhibitions, not just of visual arts, but anything from social and natural history to technology, as part of a policy "to keep as broad an appeal as possible". The idea of converting Gas Hall was first mooted in the mid-Eighties, and represents, says Silber, "a unique opportunity for

the main museum to extend its display space."

Paul Williams, of Stanton Williams, the architects behind the restoration, whose recent commissions include extending London's National Portrait Gallery, says the Gas Hall's space equates roughly to that of the ground floors of London's Hayward Gallery: "There has always been this potential linking with the type of shows the Hayward puts on. But as one large open space, Gas Hall really won't have an equivalent in this country."

"The gallery can mount shows with reusable panels — the walls will lock together in different configurations in a floor grid, and then be dismantled. That's a

development: the Royal Academy can't do it, and at the Hayward, the walls have to be knocked down and put together again. So there won't be the need for large individual budgets for each show."

Another development is the hall's sensitive environmental control, with conditions approaching those of an operating theatre. Ducts, conduits and cables wind through the building like a mini Spaghetti Junction. These will clear the air of pollutants and control lighting and humidity.

"Lenders increasingly insist on seeing evidence of the constancy of the environment, before they grant permission to exhibit certain works," says Mike Hawkins, the project manager. "We'll be able to

offer the data of our computerised analysis. You'll find nothing grubby in that environment but the people."

Why is the development not saved for a healthier economic climate? "That's not Birmingham's way," says Hawkins. "And tender costs are far lower in a recession." Despite the recession, and a £55 million cut to Birmingham's budget, the health of the arts is encouraging business, with the TSB moving its retail headquarters to Birmingham, and office accommodation in a far less parlous state than in other major cities.

The opening of Victoria Square as a quiet, tree-lined civic centre will reveal one of the largest fountains in a European city centre, plashing

around bronze sculptures by Dhruva Mistry. The classically-inspired square will offer a welcome contrast to the Sixties and Seventies brutalism of the city's skyline. And the Inner Ring Road has been pushed down away from pedestrians, so that Gas Hall will link up with the £160 million International Convention Centre, and New Street beyond, in one extended pedestrian walkway.

"With Gas Hall, we'll be able to plug into the world exhibitions," says Bryan Bird, chairman of Birmingham's Leisure Services Committee. "We hope to be doing deals with Barcelona for a Picasso exhibition. It'll no longer be New York, Paris, London, Tokyo... it'll be Birmingham added on."



Evelyn Silber, assistant director of the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, outside Gas Hall: the new space will enable Birmingham to see major touring shows

JAZZ: Clive Davis talks to the guitarist and singer Marty Grosz, a cult figure who is currently touring Britain

Grosz profits at last

One minute he is telling stories about the hard-living men of jazz's golden age; the next he is, quite unselfconsciously, quoting Aristotle. As his name might suggest, Marty Grosz has the air of both a Runyonesque huckster and a central European intellectual. A devoted student of early jazz who has become something of a cult act, the American guitarist and singer is currently in the middle of a lengthy British tour. Apart from an extended residency in Soho, he has been taking his subtle brand of small-group improvisation to small clubs and village halls in a gruelling series of one-night stands.

A typical Grosz performance is likely to include one or two long-forgotten songs from the Twenties and Thirties, a quirky lecture on an equally long-forgotten musician, plenty of solid rhythm playing on the acoustic guitar, and singing that is no worse for being rough at the edges. Having spent many years in obscurity, Grosz has learned how to make his music as accessible as possible. His views on presentation and the ethos of jazz have a defiantly Luddite ring. "I'm always sceptical of the idea of making a lady out of jazz," he explains. "People have always wanted to clean it up."

This nonconformist streak was presumably inherited from his father, the German artist George Grosz, who went into exile in New York in 1932. Marty Grosz, who was born in Berlin two years earlier, grew up surrounded by political refugees and academics. His father nurtured a passion for American popular song, and with a large bottle of red wine near at hand, would lie on the bed in his son's room while the boy played 78s on the gramophone.

For years Grosz eked out a living in and around Chicago, playing all manner of assignments in order to support his family. By the mid-Seventies he was reduced to a weekly date for a bank, playing "Down By The Riverside" ad nauseum while wearing an oversized bow-tie and a beany hat with a propeller on top. He was considering looking for a nine-to-five government job when he was phoned by an old acquaintance, the reeds player Bob Wilber, whose acclaimed group Soprano Summit had just made its first album. A fortnight after the call, Grosz was performing with Wilber at Carnegie Hall.

Grosz stayed with the group for around four years before returning to the freelance life. One of his greatest pleasures is working with musicians who know how to improvise in an

ensemble, weaving together the disparate voices.

"It's a neglected art. Not everyone can do it. As far as I'm concerned it reached its peak in the late Thirties with Bud Freeman's Summa Cum Laude band, which had players like Pee Wee Russell and Max Kaminsky. Then it vanished. I don't think that it's been fully developed to fit the bebop or post bebop styles."

"Though I notice it's sneaking back in — I've heard records where you have two horns and they're not using that boring device where the trumpet and alto or tenor play the theme in unison, then solo before coming back in on the theme. That was very fresh for about a year at the beginning, and it's still very effective in small doses, but who wants to hear it over and over?"

Marty Grosz continues his tour at Hanley Castle High School, Upton-upon-Severn, tonight. The Bun Shop, Cambridge, Sun; Ronnie Scott's Club, Monday; The Walnut Tree, Yalding, Feb 22



Marty Grosz: sceptical about the idea of "making a lady out of jazz. People have always wanted to clean it up"

DANCE

Graceful grandeur

The Sleeping Beauty Covent Garden

Why is it that Irek Mukhamedov, born and brought up in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, looks entirely at home as Prince Florimund in *The Sleeping Beauty*, whereas many of the Royal Ballet's men, educated under royal patronage in a monarchy, seem either uncomfortable or too casual when asked to put on the clothes and the manners of this grandest of Imperial Russian creations? (Adam Cooper's easy authority as Aurora's leading suitor in Act I is a notable exception.)

David Walker's drab costumes are partly to blame (a very poor imitation of the Oliver Messel splendour Covent Garden used to enjoy), but the baller no longer seems the company's signature piece as once it was. So you were lucky if you saw Mukhamedov with Lesley Collier in the lead, because they know what Tchaikovsky and Petipa are about.

Collier's Aurora is familiar, but it has never been better. As for Mukhamedov, you can tell that he previously encountered this ballet — new to his London repertoire — under Nureyev's guidance, from the

perfect way his big solo is structured, taking its pace from the music. And his own feeling for character and for the classic style shines through at every moment.

Fiona Chadwick, second only to Collier in the company's hierarchy, is too often overlooked in the fuss made about younger dancers, but she goes on giving accomplished, stylish and musical performances, and continually polishing them. Her Aurora had the benefit of Anthony Twinn's sympathetic conducting, and Stuart Cassidy in his first attempt at Florimund partnered her well, but he made a surprisingly anonymous hero.

Even the small roles in this ballet need performers of style and personality: witness the brightening of the last act on Friday when Iain Webb was paired with Jane Burn as the cat, and Luke Heydon played the wolf to Sarah Wildor's lively Red Riding Hood.

JOHN PERCIVAL

LONDON CONCERTS

Stars shine at dusk

Many *Lieder* singers pay lip service to the notion that their pianist is an equal partner rather than a mere accompanist. Few risk being upstaged by appearing with such an individual musician as Melvyn Tan. But the gamble paid off for the Austrian baritone Wolfgang Holzmair in his Wigmore Hall recital on Monday. With two artists so sensitive to the finest nuances, the music-making never failed to engage the attention.

The recital was imaginatively woven round the theme of "Zwielicht" (Twilight), a key, evocative word in German Romanticism. It was a skilfully compiled programme, centred on three composers — Mendelssohn, Schumann and Schubert — and providing variety of mood and tempo within a unified theme.

Holzmair's voice has an attractive, open quality, with a ring and a resonance that are always appropriate to the scale of the genre. Sometimes there was a hint of cloudiness in the tone, but it did not diminish his response to such details as the humorous tone of Schumann's "Venezianisches Lied".

It or the anxiously whispered warning of the same composer's "Zwielicht".

Melvyn Tan's delicate touch and expressive range, enhanced by the fortepiano on which he played, made one more impatient than ever with the bland accompaniments still sanctioned even by top *Lieder* singers.

Strong critics have been known to blanch at the prospect of an evening of Schubert part-songs. Even the BBC Singers, for whom such songs might have been written, offered only half a programme (at the Queen Elizabeth Hall), the remaining half being occupied with the same composer's String Quartet in A Minor D804 and the Quartettsatz D703, played by the Chilingirian String Quartet.

The part-songs in fact displayed a surprising range of tonal colour, and were accompanied by sylvan horns, mellow strings (the Chilingirian again) or gently rippling piano trios (beautifully supplied by Imogen Cooper).

Jacqueline Fox was the excellent mezzo soloist in "Ständchen", though the effect of the serene refrain was somewhat diminished by the use of a female chorus. The men, to be fair, had had plenty to do, with their hunting and various nocturnal choruses. Sian Edwards drew lively, well-moulded performances from all sections of the choir.

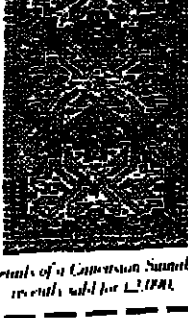
The Chilingirian String Quartet may not have quite the flawless execution of the Alban Berg Quartet, who opened the Schubert festival last week, but they do bring to bear a geniality, a humanity, that are sometimes hard to discern in the performances of their colleagues. In the warm, lyrical outpouring of the main theme of the Quartettsatz, those qualities were immediately evident.

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Details of a Caucasian Samad, recently sold for £2,000.

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Echoes in the studious cloister

Though Gibbon scorned the "monks of Magdalen", John Marenbon admires medieval Oxford and modern Cambridge

The ancient universities are busy looking back at their past. Both Oxford and Cambridge are producing multi-volume histories of themselves. Two new volumes cover Oxford in the later middle ages, and Cambridge, 1870 to 1990.

Oxford in the 14th and 15th centuries may seem remote in fact, it turns out to be remarkably familiar to anyone from a modern university. Students came from far and wide, attended courses and gained qualifications. For the great majority, academic study was merely a pathway to a professional or administrative career; for a few, learning became their life's goal.

As in almost every university today except for Oxford and Cambridge, teaching was organized by faculties (colleges) became teaching institutions only at the end of the middle ages. The reader might be surprised by the emphasis on logic, which was regarded as a fundamental training for all undergraduates and by the intellectual supremacy of theology. But other subjects — physics, mathematics and astronomy, medicine and law — were also studied; and within theology questions were debated which would now belong to science or philosophy.

This volume conveys well the fascination and sophistication of medieval Oxford thought in all these areas. But its story is of decline. Early 14th-century Oxford theologians — Duns Scotus, William of Ockham and Adam Wodeham — had set the direction of speculation throughout Europe, and the subtlety of English (for the most part Oxford) logic was renowned. By the late 14th-century, theologians' interests had turned from speculation to mysticism and pastoral matters. Despite the interest of 15th-century Oxford logic and the role of the university in early humanism — both brought out well in this book — the masters of late medieval Oxford remain

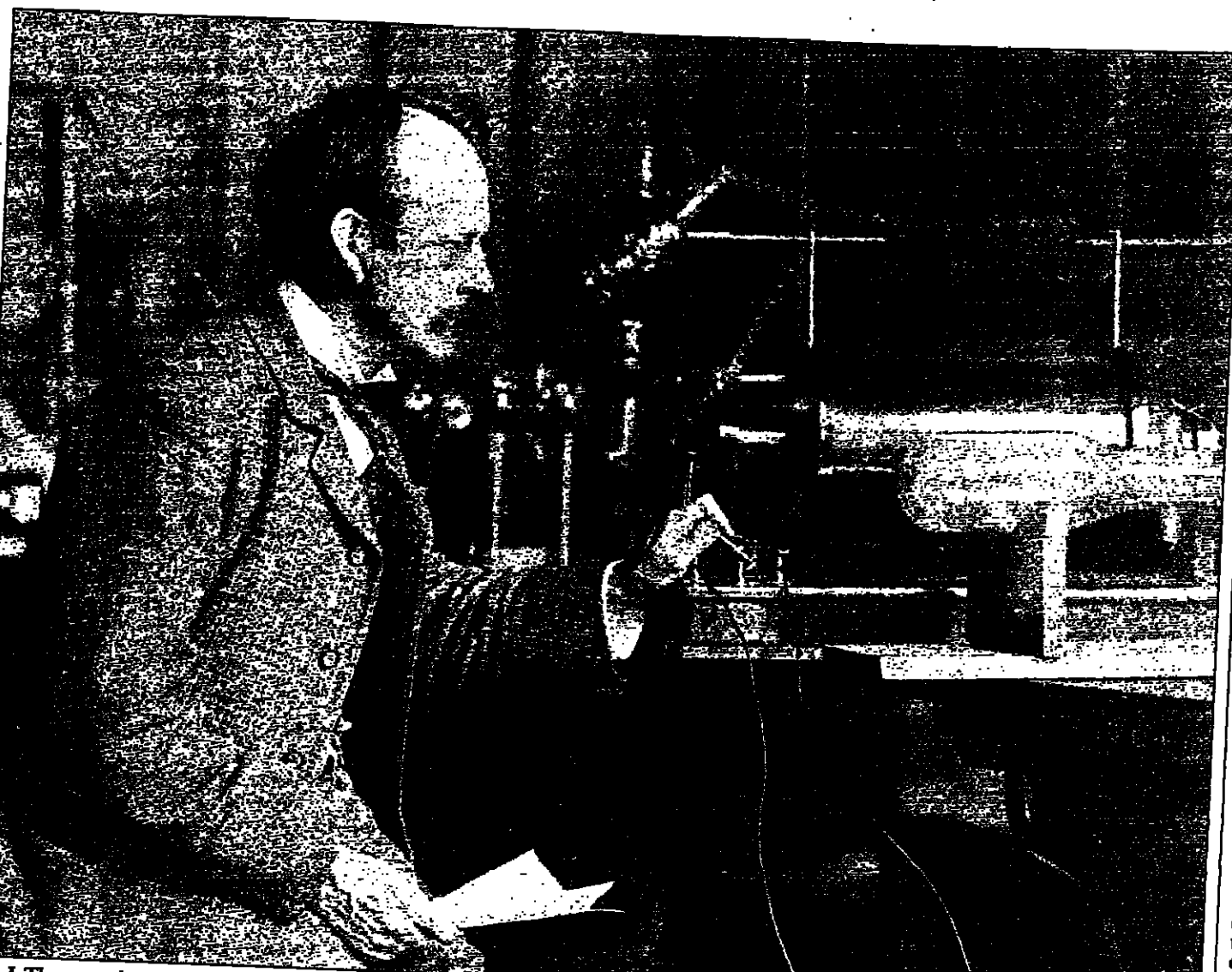
figures of little influence or importance.

Wisely, the contributors refrain from offering glib explanations for this change. The blame cannot be simply laid on the Black Death; nor on John Wyclif, the most famous Oxford master of the late 14th century, whose intellectual development led him from logical realism, through radical theories on grace and dominion, to outright heresy. Fear of heresy may have led to some loss of independence in Oxford after Wyclif, but there was no fundamental institutional change.

Christopher Brooke's volume on Cambridge deals with a far more recent period of history. Yet Cambridge in 1870 was stranger than medieval Oxford: a university in name but hardly in function. Research was frowned upon as the sort of thing people did abroad. Nor did most college fellows consider teaching to be part of their job, and the minority of undergraduates who sought an honours degree — the preferred subject was mathematics — had to arrange private coaching. Muscular Christianity was as dominant in the university as at the public schools, and for many students college life centred on rowing and the chapel.

This volume's theme is, therefore, the transformation of "a provincial seminary" into "a major academy of international repute". It is a story of reform, expansion and success: the building of libraries and laboratories; the founding of new faculties and colleges; the provision of college and university teaching; the admission and integration of women. Brooke deals with all these subjects thoroughly, but he has had the courage to write a far more personal book than the usual official university histories. His account centres around a series of portraits of the men and women who have made 20th-century Cambridge what it is.

They include scientists such as J.J. Thomson, tramp-like in dress



J.J. Thomson in 1897, showing his cathode ray tube at the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge. Taken from *The Making of the Modern World: Milestones in Science and Technology*, edited by Neil Cossons (John Murray/Science Museum, £17.95). This richly illustrated volume has a page of text each for one hundred major inventions (photo copyright Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge)

and appearance even after he became Master of Trinity, clumsy with his hands but able, after a few moments' scribbling on the back of an envelope, to tell a baffled researcher exactly how to put right his equipment. There are historians such as Dom David Knowles, the first Benedictine to be a professor at Cambridge since the Reformation, who dedicated his life to studying the history of the monastic orders while spending much of his career at odds with his own. And there are those who defy any academic pigeon-holing, such as Joseph Needham, scientist, sinologist, socialist, Christian, Taoist — and Master of Gonville and Caius.

Brooke's choice of figures would not be everyone's; but it is hard to quarrel with his decision to concen-

trate on those he is able to treat with sympathy and understanding. Brooke is himself a Cambridge professor, as was his father. He is able to turn to his own background and memory to illustrate the changes in the life of Cambridge dons. Have academics' living standards declined over the last 50 years (as almost every academic will surely declare)? Brooke argues that the question has no easy answer. On an academic salary, his parents were able to build a large house in the best part of Cambridge, employ domestic staff and send their three sons to public school; but their way of life was quite austere, with little foreign travel, dining out or luxury in food or drink, save the occasional bottle of "fine vintage port bought... before the Great War for

less than three shillings a bottle."

These are two very different books. Yet both suggest the same paradox about universities and their history. If universities are considered merely as professional training schools (as, alas, so many today regard them), then no doubt very close links can be found between their success and the way in which they are organised. But their higher intellectual achievements do not seem to be directly related to any feature or change of institutional arrangements. Nothing in university history can explain why Oxford philosophy and theology flourished early in the 14th century, but not later; nor how the Cambridge of the 1870s was 50 years later a leading centre in science, philosophy and the arts.

Brooke ends his work by observing how many of the "major creations of Cambridge dons over the last hundred years... have crossed the boundaries of major disciplines". To which it might be added that Cambridge's dual system of faculty and college teaching could hardly be better designed to frustrate any sort of interdisciplinary initiative: faculties are encouraged to compete, not cooperate, and college teaching emphasizes faculty boundaries. Cambridge has flourished in the 20th century — perhaps any university at any time has flourished — as much in spite as because of itself.

John Marenbon is fellow and director of studies in English at Trinity College, Cambridge.

Cruelty to the theatre

James Woodall

ANTONIN ARTAUD
Blows and Bombs
By Stephen Barber
Faber, £14.99

In spite of his reputation as a theatrical innovator, few have ever seen a play by Antonin Artaud. This is because his stage writings are largely unperformable. A stage direction from his 1925 scenario, *The Spurt of Blood*, reads: "A hurricane comes between them. At that moment two stars collide, and a succession of limbs of flesh falls." Not even a director with an embarrassment of props could manage that one.

Artaud was, for most of his life, a demented drug addict who made no money and, in practical terms, achieved nothing. His name is nonetheless central to 20th century theatre. Born in Marseilles in 1896, he survived meningitis as a child. He spent much of his later adolescence in sanatoriums to cure his depression, and was discharged from the army in 1916 after two months for sleepwalking. In 1920s Paris, lurching penniless from hotel to hotel, he was drawn towards cinema, acted in films and joined the Surrealist movement, but was expelled in 1926.

Artaud's increasingly chaotic trips abroad ended in internment in a Rouen lunatic asylum in 1937. He was released in 1946, broken physically by a long series of electroshocks. His mind was no longer his drug addiction cured. He died in 1948 from an overdose taken to dampen pain from intestinal cancer.

Such is Artaud's unifying biography. He was, however, enormously productive on paper, as Gallimard's 25-volume *Œuvres complètes* testifies. Stephen Barber's brief and lucid account of Artaud's career skilfully pulls out the writer's more intelligible preoccupations — in verse, prose, drama, manifestos



Artaud: hideous failure?

and correspondence — and rightly highlights Artaud's most influential invention: the Theatre of Cruelty.

Any drama student whose training has included a look at Artaud's book *The Theatre and its Double* will have some idea of what this is about. Barber clearly does too, though he finds it hard to sum it up memorably, or to give it the space it demands.

A definition might lie in his subtle, *Blows and Bombs*. What Artaud elsewhere describes as "fire, gesture, blood, scream" were, at least in theory, the raw materials of his theatre. His was theatre stripped of its traditional accoutrements: language, costume, style, setting. Artaud wanted a theatre of physical elements: crude noise, visual violence, to stir the most active of emotions in habitually passive audiences.

Given the development of these ideas in the early 1930s, Artaud was, as Barber implies, prophetic. Because of his fundamental antipathy to organisation and a deterring mental condition, Artaud was never able to put them into practice. A curious omission, therefore, on Barber's part is the RSC's celebrated exploration of Artaud's work, 30 years later, in the 1964 "Theatre of Cruelty" season under Peter Brook.

In all fairness, Barber has not written a "theatre book". He has opted for a "study", a slippery genre that is neither biography nor polemic, though it could do with heavier injections of both.

What the book really lacks is passion. Artaud is not a figure to be addressed without it. Passion, that is, tempered by humour. Artaud's life was a hideous failure: his "incendiary" plans to destabilise established institutions (the "declared war" on the Pope in 1925) are matters for sympathetic mockery. In elegant prose, Barber errs towards the reverential. Artaud needs to be taken to task, his notions challenged and played with. It is up to contemporary directors to see whether Artaud has anything to say for the stage today, or whether it was just all in his head.

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Big gun of the small screen

Jim McCue

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By Clive James
Jonathan Cape, £14.99

At how far he had failed to state the case

With all those tricks that now seemed so half-arsed

Not only is this a fresh and Auden-esque rhyme, but by hinting at Auden's homosexual arising around (all those tricks), it makes the reader momentarily share the shame of a sniggering failure of attention. How well "aghost" is placed on that edge.

At the heart of this book are six battle-cries for quality in television, and specifically for the maintenance of the duopoly in British broadcasting. As a television critic for ten years, James claims that he watched more television than anyone else alive — often, he says, two channels at once — and he is passionate in defence of the system that has produced so much that was worth watching.

Great inventions like the David Attenborough nature series *The Trials of Life* are made by whole battalions of people who work out of belief, commitment, personal sacrifice and love.

British television, he convincingly argues, is a national achievement we should be proud of. But when attacked from left and right, the corporation men — the enablers who exist to find, foster and protect the creative people — lost their nerve and failed in their duty.

James so deplores deregulation that he blurs the distinction between satellite (or cable) services and the franchise sale. No government could prevent the advent of satellite; but few governments could have dreamed up a scheme so unrealistic and undignified as a blind auction for TV's future, which even Lady Thatcher came to regret.

The new technologies made change outside the duopoly inevitable, but the terms of terrestrial broadcasting need not have been compromised. The tawdry output of some of the new franchise holders argues strongly against any proposals for fundamental change at the BBC when its charter is renewed in 1996. The old broadcasting need not compete with the new, but should have the confidence that it is different and better. After all, broadsheet newspapers are not unviable because there are tabloids.

This book chronicles in colourful detail the Parisian sojourns of non-French writers — mainly Americans — from the entry of the Allies in 1944 to the late 50s heyday of the beatniks. Like the previous "Lost Generation" (Joyce, Pound, Cummings, Hemingway, Gertrude Stein, Henry Miller), the post-war expats found and extended the most promiscuous, uncensored and intellectually stimulating community of their lives in the city of light. Both groups discovered, as Stein said, it's not so much what Paris gives you, as what it doesn't take away.

Most of the younger Americans were in flight from the racism, homophobia and austere materialism of the McCarthy-Eisenhower era — notably James Jones, Irwin Shaw, William Styron, Lawrence Sanders, the revolutionary blacks Richard Wright, James Baldwin, Chester Himes; and a number of brilliant homosexuals, including Allen Ginsberg, William Burroughs and John Ashberry.

Sawyer-Launcanno's opening evokes the last year of the war through the words of Hemingway, Stein, Virgil Thomson and others, with graphic accounts of the Liberation and its consequences for economically blitzed native Parisians as well as for GIs and artistic exiles. Much of the readjusting French population resented the lackadaisical Yanks, well-heeled and burrhead alike. Telling nuances are suggested by means of intriguing vignettes and probing research — into the Jewish Stein's unexamined anti-Semitism, for instance, or with the information that on the night of Hemingway's autumn 1944 encounter with the king and queen of existentialism, Sartre left "around the sixth bottle" of scotch, but De Beauvoir stayed until dawn. "Hemingway later boasted that she had wanted the 'literary experience' of sleeping with

Yanks out to a naked lunch

Michael Horovitz

THE CONTINUAL
PILGRIMAGE
By Christopher Sawyer-Launcanno
Bloomsbury, £25



Burroughs: lurid fantasies

him, but although he was willing, because of his battle fatigue he was not able."

The treatment of this early scene exemplifies what turns out to be a recurrent unimagination in Sawyer-Launcanno's reconstructions. He reports how, "upon their entrance to his room, Hemingway grabbed hold of Sartre and firmly embraced him. 'You're a general,' he said. 'Me, I'm only a captain.' As Sartre was not an officer at all, the comment seemed rather off the mark." Spot-on, I would think, if

you take the romantic Hem's impulsive salute as a pinch of snuff to their respective ranks in the barracks of literature.

An extensive exposition of the black triumvirate touches on the many changes they underwent in Paris and on the tensions between them, but does not explore in any depth the inter-relating context of many other blacks there at the time nor the reverberations of the brutal Algerian war and the ghettoisation of North Africans in France.

The author's strongest suit is in the finesse with which he traces the rebirth of English-language publishing in Paris: George Plimpton's *Paris Review*, which pioneered the celebrity interview; *Méridien*, edited by Alexander Trocchi; Christopher Logue et al.; and Maurice Girodias's Olympia Press. Though Samuel Beckett's early works had appeared in French from Minuit, it was the Merlin team and Olympia that put him on the English-speaking map. They co-published *Watt* and *Molloy* in 1953-4, and Girodias went on to introduce Nabokov's *Invitation to a Beheading*, Genet, Donleavy's *Ginger* and William Burroughs's *The Naked Lunch*, whose lurid sex and drugs fantasies were to give sensation-seekers and customs officials indigestion for years.

Girodias subsidised these initially risky ventures — and also the hotel, café and bar bills of the *Merlin* lads — by commissioning more hot sellers in the form of erotica and pornography from them. Titles like *White Thighs*, *Wide Open Mouth* and *The Sex*

Life of Robinson Crusoe, and translations of Sade, Apollinaire, Bataille and *L'Histoire d'O* ensued. Trocchi in particular attained such a degree of sophistication that his faked fifth volume of Frank Harris's *My Life & Loves* hoodwinks Harris specialists to this day.

The experiments in bohemian literature and life of Ferlinghetti, Harry Mathews and his wife Niki de Saint Phalle, Ashbery and the grubby left-bank "Beat Hotel" get entertaining gossip-laden chapters to themselves. Ashbery makes the crucial point: "The feeling of being a stranger even in moments of greatest rapport with one's adopted home is the opposite of the American 'acceptance world' which so often ends up stifling an artist's originality. What is especially moving in the work of Americans abroad is a resolution in the face of apathy and apartheid to determine their individuality. Exile can result in an exciting art that is independent of fashion and environment, as art must be in order to survive when the environment has been removed."

The saga concludes with Olympia's rushed publication of a randomly ordered *Naked Lunch*, after nearly a decade's agonising over its best final form, segueing into Burroughs's next step, willfully arbitrary intertextual cut-ups. Sawyer-Launcanno's method could hardly be more different. He supplements his reader-friendly yet scholarly narrative with 40 pages of notes, bibliography and sources, with every quotation and reference meticulously attributed.

Most of the writers who spent formative years in Paris returned to their countries of origin. The radical alteration of horizons they experienced in France undoubtedly helped many of them to produce work that stands among the most adventurous poetic achievements of the century.

How to read all the books you need

David West

HOMER
Readings and Images
Edited by C. Emlin-Jones,
I. Hardwick and J. Purkis
Duckworth, £12.99

(1964) starts the ball rolling in fine style. The Trojan War "had been removed in toto from the realm of history and returned to the realm of myth and poetry." That sceptical position is endorsed by Manning's valuable introduction to the archaeological background and it is not shaken by Davies's attempt to establish nine criteria for establishing the truth of traditional tales, or Sherratt's hypothesis marrying three strains of composition to three

archaeological strata occurring during the nine centuries.

Many essays in this book tackle social history. The difficulty is that the poems blend elements from these 900 years into one imaginary society. The world of *Odyssey* never existed. What can be studied is the poems and its outlines are often elusive. It does not help us much to be told that the poems show a tension between aristocrats and peasants or between licentious youth and censorious age. So many ages do. More bracing is Halverson's argument that there is no social or political in the *Odyssey*. It is a poem about *Odyssey*'s household and how he ran it.

Apart from Emlin-Jones's excellent short section on the gods in Homer, the contributions of the

three editors are more concerned with the afterlife of these poems, showing that every age sees Homer differently. All this is interesting and indisputable, but I do not see that later "poetry and drama may provide the best critical commentary on Homer." Derek Walcott and Christopher Logue tell us something about our own world, nothing about Homer.

There is one Homeric problem not directly tackled in this book — what is it about this first European poetry which makes it still unsurpassed? Perhaps this is not a proper question for academic study, but rather a mystery to delight anyone who has seen Achilles pulling his great sword from its scabbard at the beginning of the *Iliad* or has read half a book of the *Odyssey*. But is that a twinkle in the blind old eyes?

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The English and their Good Book

The Bible was once taken as literally in England as the Koran is in Iran today.

Antonia Fraser on Hill's magnum opus

Christopher Hill describes the Bible and its role between the Reformation and 1640, the eve of the Civil War, thus: "It was a huge brain-trub from which anything might be drawn." He adds: "There are few ideas in whose support a Biblical text cannot be found."

Given the use of the story of Ham to support racism in the past, to take only one example, who can disagree with him? Africans were held to be the descendants of Ham, son of Noah (the name was thought to mean black) and as such deserving punishment. Noah cursed Ham's posterity because of Ham's disrespect for his father's drunken nakedness. The text in Genesis ("A servant of servants shall be unto his brethren") was used to justify slavery — and leave the enslaver feeling good about it. As against this, Jesus Christ, of course, preached in direct contradiction the equality of all peoples in the sight of God: "In Christ there is neither bond nor free." But then that is Hill's point.

In *The English Bible* Hill centres on the fact that "the ideas which divided the two parties in the civil war, and which divided conservatives from radicals among the victorious Parliamentarians, were all found in the Bible." The use of biblical texts to bolster up authority — generally royal authority — and equally to attack it, is especially interesting.

Where the attacks were concerned, it is important to realise that the term "The Man of Blood", so frequently hurled at Charles I by his opponents, was not mere abuse but was in fact biblical in origin. It derived from Numbers xxv, 33: "Blood defileth the land, and the land cannot be cleansed but by the death of him that caused it to be shed." Thus by progression, as Hill points out, the study of the Bible did at least accustom men to the possibility of regicide. On the other hand the political theory of Sir Robert Filmer, what might be called the extreme right-wing position on the patriarchal authority of the monarch, was itself derived from the Old Testament, and the deeds (and authority) of the patriarchs.

Another way of using the Bible in the cause of political controversy was as a source of code or "double-

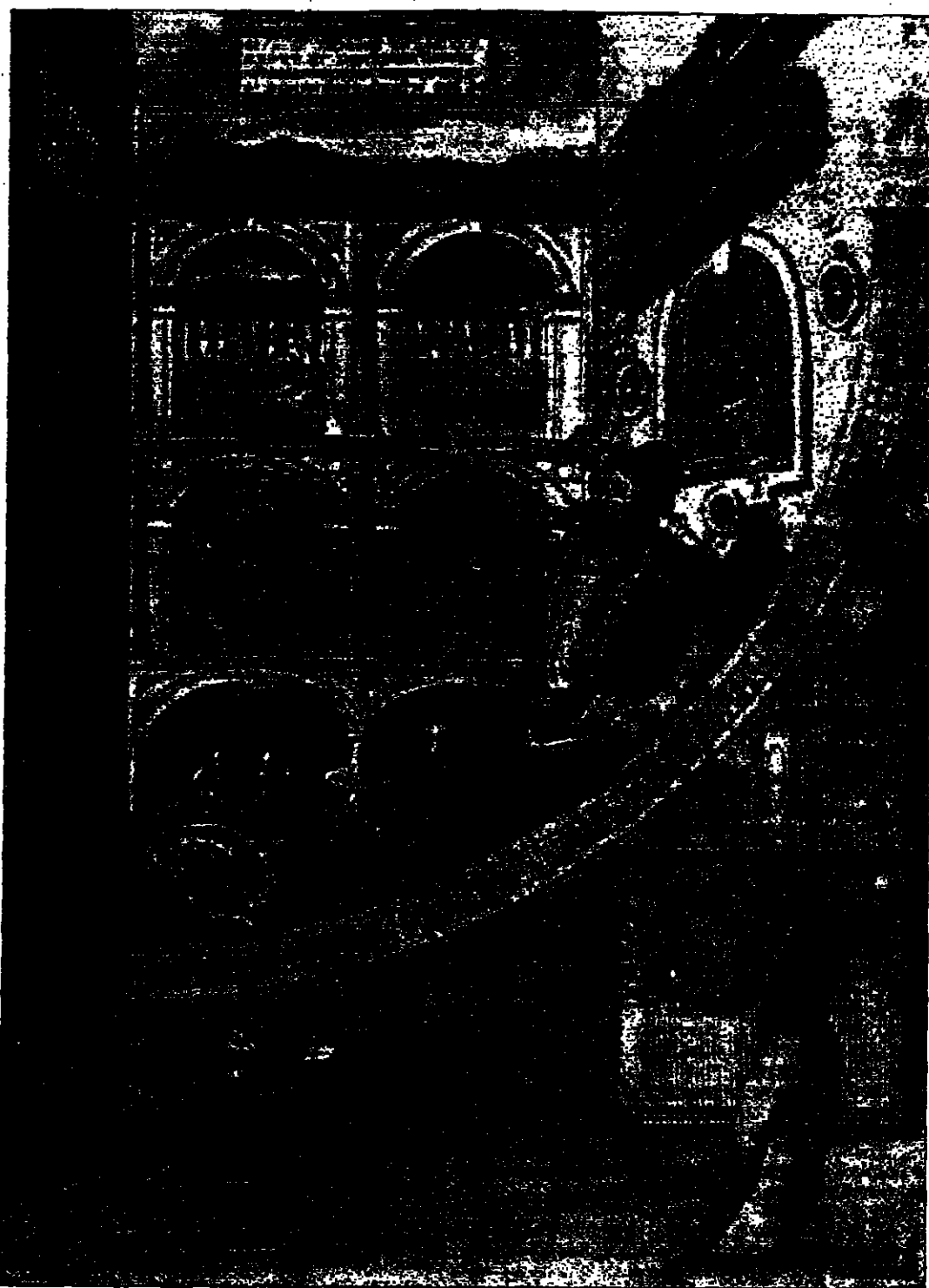
talk". Figures like Cain and Abel, Esau and Jacob, Samson and Nimrod could all be cited in sermons and writings: the audience would understand only too easily what and who was meant without, it was hoped, attracting too much unpleasant attention from the censor. (The same technique was used in Romania under Ceausescu: one priest was able to denounce the evil ruler Nechadzezzar to his congregation when he could hardly have poured the same vitriol on the name of Ceausescu himself.)

And there was a leading part in all this for Antichrist, whose overthrow was agreed by Protestants to be an essential preliminary to the Second Coming and the millennium. English radicals had equated the Pope with Antichrist since the days of the Lollards; King James I added the notion of Rome as Babylon to the Pope as Antichrist; then a Catholic recusant in Hampshire called the King himself Antichrist. Accusations of being Antichrist began to fly so freely in the 17th century that Archbishop Usher made the point that these accusations

were really far too frequent. Although he did actually believe the Pope to be Antichrist, he complained that "nothing is so familiar nowadays... as to father upon Antichrist whatsoever in church matters we do not find to sort with our own humours". Evidently calling someone Antichrist was the 17th-century equivalent of our own parrot cry "worse-than-Hitler", which is so seldom, if ever, applied with any degree of appropriateness.

This is a fascinating study which, although concentrating on the 17th century, has ramifications that lead on to what Hill calls "the black/white world of the Ayatollah Khomeini" today.

Indeed it is impossible not to think of the modern universality of the Koran in the Islamic world, in reading of an age in which the Bible was everywhere in the lives of men, women and children: the number of copies of the Bible and New Testament sold in the hundred years before the Civil War has been estimated at over a million. In an interesting appendix, Christopher Hill considers the use of the Bible in 20th-century liberation theology in Latin America. He compares Gustavo Gutiérrez, the



Tycho Brahe (1546-1601), the great Danish astronomer, from his *Astronomiae Instaurata* (1598), showing his celebrated observatory at Uraniborg. Brahe made the first reliable star maps. Taken from *Images of Science: A History of Scientific Illustration* by Brian J. Ford (British Library, £25)

leading liberation theologian, to the Civil War radicals. In the attention Gutiérrez pays to the sufferings of the poor, he relies on exactly the same biblical texts.

At the same time, Hill's work is rooted in that all-embracing 17th-century scholarship of which he is the master, so that his multitudinous references, to say nothing of his allusions to fellow scholars, august or aspiring, are almost as dazzling as the text itself.

The ultimate compliment to Hill's work is to find oneself turning anew to the Bible to support a particular claim (in my case to justify a more active role for women in the modern Catholic church). In Christ, after all, there is "neither male nor female" as well as "neither bond nor free." At the same time, thanks to Hill, one is well aware that other busy fingers are leading through the sayings of St Paul on the subject of "the weaker vessel". At least Christopher Hill believes on balance that "the Bible in English did far more good than harm".

A crass, ultra-rich businessman, James, has married the beautiful Elizabeth to live in what she considers luxury. The house near Ascot is a gadgeted nightmare of vulgarity. The swimming pool — with its sliding doors, Jacuzzi, and horrid bar — is where they swim with friends, usually without "cozies". James, who adores Elizabeth but is mysteriously too "English" to say so, impassively seethes with jealousy while watching his naked wife fondled by a friend in the pool. But in the middle of the night he is openly furious when he finds Elizabeth, absent from his bed, drinking whisky in the drawing room with an 18-year-old housemaid to whom she is pouring out her miseries. With monstrous unfairness he sacks the girl.

So far, Elizabeth and James, apart from their bodies, are unattractive, implausible and uninteresting. I would have stopped reading if I had not met the charming and intelligent author-

How Europe's other half lives

Woodrow Wyatt

PRESENT FROM THE PAST
By Annabel Dilke
André Deutsch, £13.99

ess, widow of the Bulgarian Georgi Markov, who was murdered in Britain with a poisoned umbrella by his communist compatriots in revenge for his effective BBC broadcasts to Bulgaria. I thought there must be something better to come, and there was.

On hearing that the dictator of Bulgaria (unnecessarily described as somewhere else) has died, Elizabeth decides to go there to talk to

the family and friends of her dead first husband, Konstantin. As an art student she had been picked up (she was always being picked up by men) by Konstantin in the National Gallery and married him. A defector, he was kidnapped by Bulgarian secret police and smuggled back to Sofia. Elizabeth learns that, tortured and drugged, he had been paraded on television to confess his crimes. What his best friend, Andrei, could not forgive him was the manner of his escape from Bulgaria, carelessly incriminating his associates in the underground resistance.

As might be expected, Elizabeth promptly has a passionate affair with Andrei, the distress of his girlfriend. However, the account of

the reactions of the Bulgarians, bewildered by the sudden departure of the dictator, and by far the largest section of the book, are fascinating and convincing. It is the best description I have read of the awfulness of the life of the politically aware, and of the corrupt, secretly guarded splendour of their rulers. The book is worth reading for this alone.

Meanwhile, James at home, livid at Elizabeth's departure, longs to have her back. In her short stay she has had enough of hearing the tragedies of all the Bulgarians she meets. The undying love so recently sworn to Andrei is abandoned. She decides she wants to return to James and that next time she will be pleased when he makes love to her instead of wearily putting up with it. At this late point the book starts to be unconvincing again. If Annabel Dilke would think her English characters through to reality as thoroughly as she has her Bulgarians, she could write a first-class novel.

Dull dog and doppelgänger

Philip Howard

A DOUBLE LIFE
By Frederic Raphael
Orion, £14.99

There is word play in the title, as you should expect from a wordsmith and funster-punster such as Raphael. But this is not one of his extravagant sexual quest thrillers with a cast of grotesques, intellectual Dornford Yases in drag. It is an ambitious novel dealing with big issues of love and betrayal. The subterfuges of chess are a recurring metaphor.

The narrator is Guy (if that is what he is) and Guy de Rougemouse, a professional French diplomat who has just retired to his family home in the Périgord after an unblemished but unremarkable career, lazierly dancing delicately on the pin-points of EC directives about Italian wine and olives. He is writing his memoirs, perhaps to exorcise ghosts from the past, partly to justify himself to the reader.

But the narrative splits into two and makes a double life. Alternate chapters go back 50 years, to the time of the German occupation, when Guy was an introverted schoolboy, and the violent events that made him what he has become. Alternate chapters revert to the late Sixties and thereafter, where Guy is locked in the duplicities of diplomacy and a loveless marriage.

In both halves of his double life terrible violence happens, and Guy is hunted by guilt and more tangible Furies. As a child, he did nothing except make a pointless stand too late when the men in black hats came to take away Fritz. Fritz was the Jewish boy who was coming as close as Guy would let anyone to being a friend. Guy could perhaps have saved him. As a man, he gives his wife's shower-coat (this seems to be a light raincoat) to a Roman prostitute, who satisfies his ambiguous sexual needs and his urge to decep-

tion. Pia is later found murdered, and the coat is the clue. Both periods of the double life are full of secrets, some of them mortal, many of them bisexual. Apart from his multiple faces, Guy is a dull dog, given to saying things like: "However, recognising that things had gone too far for revision, I was obliged to stay silent, although an inner voice was rehearsing a fatuous prospectus in which I invited the girl to come with me to some hazy destination where, as one would expect, I should offer her the freedom to lead her own life."

As you would expect with Raphael, the writing is glittering, the clues and innuendoes cunningly structured, the Eurotour round French and the classical references to Aeneas or the Sullan constitution exact and relevant. The trouble is that Guy is such a prat that it is difficult to be as obsessively interested in him as he himself and his surrogate author are. The women are mere marionettes and sexual puppets.

This double story of the making of an emotional prat is sad and full of clichés and surprises. It deals with the terrible choices and treacheries of our century in a powerful way. I found the chapters of the boy during the Occupation more gripping than the tales of the boy grown up into devious diplomat. This is a big, clever novel, but ultimately not as moving or psychologically interesting as it might have been with a more sympathetic hero, or at any rate one to empathise more with.

Four diaries of 19th-century somebodies

The past, as has famously been remarked, is another country, where all things are different. For readers inclined to explore that strange territory, the most direct route is through the diaries which our forebears left behind them. New editions of two of the very best of these, together with a couple little known hitherto, confirm their continuing appeal.

Enthusiasts may argue over whether Dorothy Wordsworth or Francis Kilvert wrote the more significant journal, but there is no argument about the fascination that both exert. They leave in the mind a lasting impression of the feeling of life as lived in particular places at particular moments in history.

Dorothy Wordsworth, the "exquisite sister" of the poet as Coleridge called her, was a born writer although she never published a word. She lived with her brother, briefly in Somerset and then in Lakeland. To read the diary she kept is to understand why he and Coleridge cherished her companionship. Her power of observation and sensitivity to the natural world light up every page.

Paul Hamilton's introduction to this new edition (Selections from the Journals of Dorothy Wordsworth, Picking Women's Classics, £24.95) dwells upon the nature of the

intense relationship between her and her brother, both before his marriage and afterwards, when she continued to live (contentedly, by all accounts) in a sort of *ménage à trois*. He keeps a sharp look out for unintended symbolism (for instance, he connects her entry "Met a blind man, driving a very large beautiful Bull, and a cow" with William's impending marriage). That apart, the story of the Wordsworths' life at Grasmere is told with unforgettable vividness the reader can delve for symbols and deconstruct to his heart's content. This is a pleasant enough edition but lacks a map.

The contrast with Kilvert is great. Dorothy Wordsworth's diary is spare in direct self-revelation: his is a rich outpouring, a candid self-portrait set in a closely-observed rural scene. It is also easily the bulkier of the two. The original three-volume edition, edited by William Plomer some 50 years ago, contained only about one-third of the manuscript — and that text had been severely censored by Kilvert's widow. Worse still, a misguided relation subsequently destroyed the lot, thus frustrating a plan to publish it in its entirety. Even so, what survives is an overflowing account of Kilvert's life and the lost world of Victorian villages. David Lockwood's new se-

lection seeks to emphasise those passages which most strikingly reflect the character of the age. Kilvert, *The Victorian* (Seren Books, £14.95) is seen not only in his role as the romantic curate of Clyn but also as visitor to the Great Exhibition, frequenter of West End picture galleries and student of scientific discoveries. That Kilvert was an out-and-out Victorian hardly needs to be stressed, however: he was born in the third year of the reign and died in 1879. As Plomer wrote, "the chief merit of the diary is that it affords a detailed and objective picture of life in a remote and beautiful part of the country". For a taste of its quality, dip into the wonderful account of the comedy and drama of a pompous Victorian funeral. It reads like a chapter from a masterpiece of a novel.

In 1821 Maria Graham went to sea with her husband, the naval officer in command of the 42-gun frigate *Doris*. The *Captain's Wife*, edited by Elizabeth Mavor, (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.99) is her diary of their voyage to South America, at a time when the Spanish and Portuguese colonies were battling for independence.

She was a cool, crisp and observant writer. She was also, one supposes, a formidable lady. At Pernambuco she was urged not to leave the ship

because of the conflict in progress, "but I had never seen a town in a state of siege, and therefore resolved to go ashore". Her fortitude was needed, as her husband died as the *Doris* was rounding Cape Horn. What follows is the story of her lonely life as an English widow in Chile, interwoven with her sympathetic view of the emerging New World. Eventually she made her way home, was known as "the intrepid Mrs Graham", married again, and wrote *Little Arthur's History of England*, a Victorian best-seller running to a million copies.

Archibald Lady Harland's *Commonplace Book* (Moore Mackay, £9.95) contains the jottings of a lady of wealth living in Suffolk in the years before Victoria. It is mostly devoted to small domestic concerns but includes a fine example of how fashions in what is politically correct can change. Lady Harland quotes, evidently as her ruling maxim: "Seek to be good, aim not to be great."

A Woman's noblest station is retreat. One doubts whether Maria Graham would have entirely approved.

J.W.M. THOMPSON

J.W.M. Thompson was Editor of the *Sunday Telegraph*, 1976-86; as Peter Quince he wrote a column on country life for *The Spectator*



An English barn owl from Eric Hosking's *Owls* by Eric Hosking with Dr Jim Flegg (Michael Joseph, £12.99), a paperback reissue of this guide for the non-specialist

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HUTCHINSON

Australian Open junior champion gets tough introduction to life in the seniors

Baily returns to earth with a bump

BY ANDREW LONGMORE, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE circus came to town, but the trapeze artist fell off the high wire. In his first senior match and his first game since he became a celebrity, James Baily, the Australian Open junior champion, was brought crashing back down to earth by a run-of-the-mill Swede, ranked 34th in his country and 369th in the world.

As a first-round loser in a satellite tournament, the HFS Loans League of international tennis, Baily, 18, earned £86 on his first day as a professional. There will be bigger rewards to come.

The result, a 7-6, 6-2 win for the No. 6 seed, Robert Eriksson, was not surprising, but the anti-climax was tangible nonetheless. Usually, satellite tournaments are visited only by one man and his dog or by accident. Yesterday, the balcony above the orange carpet court at the David Lloyd club in Eastbourne was graced by a row of photographers worthy of the opening day of Wimbledon itself, though the surroundings were somewhat less prestigious.

At the All England club, play is not often punctuated by arguments over which ball belongs to which court, nor do

RESULTS

British unless stated
FIRST ROUND: P. Boulenger (Fr) bt J. Peto (Cuba), 6-7, 7-6, 6-1; S. Helle (Fr) bt A. Richardson, 6-3, 7-6; F. Cousin (Bel) bt A. Baur (Fr), 7-6, 7-6; M. Petchey (Ir) bt T. Glin (Swiss), 6-1, 6-4; R. Eriksson (Swe) bt J. Baily, 7-6, 6-2; M. Barnard (SA) bt D. Must (Ir), 7-6, 7-6; C. Wilsson (Ir) bt T. Henman, 7-6, 6-3; M. Macgregor (Ir) bt Song Hyeon-Kyun (Kor), 7-6, 6-4.

professionals have to curse and sweat for their living against a backdrop of private lessons being given to club hackers. In satellites, players have to field their own balls, which is in keeping with the prevailing atmosphere of life on the other side of the tracks. The good players are only passing through.

It was a far cry from Baily's last competitive outing, in 100°F heat on one of the show courts at Flinders Park in Melbourne, when he followed such illustrious names as Ken Rosewall, John Newcombe and Stefan Edberg in winning the Australian junior title. No wonder he tried not to look back yesterday. "I did not think once about being Australian Open junior champion," he said. It must have seemed like a dream.

Much of the past ten days have passed in a dream for Baily, who knew what to expect but was overawed by the attention since his return. "I have spent most of the time on the telephone answering questions," he said. "I look forward to the day when it becomes quieter at home."

The atmosphere seemed to affect the Swede more than Baily. Eriksson double-faulted three times in his first service game. "He seemed to be more nervous than I was," Baily said. Eriksson, even at the tender age of 21, is a journeyman professional, who has spent much of the past four years swilling around the 300s and 400s in the rankings. That means he is a fair player, but going nowhere particularly fast. But he knew too much for a novice, even one tagged with as big a label as Baily.

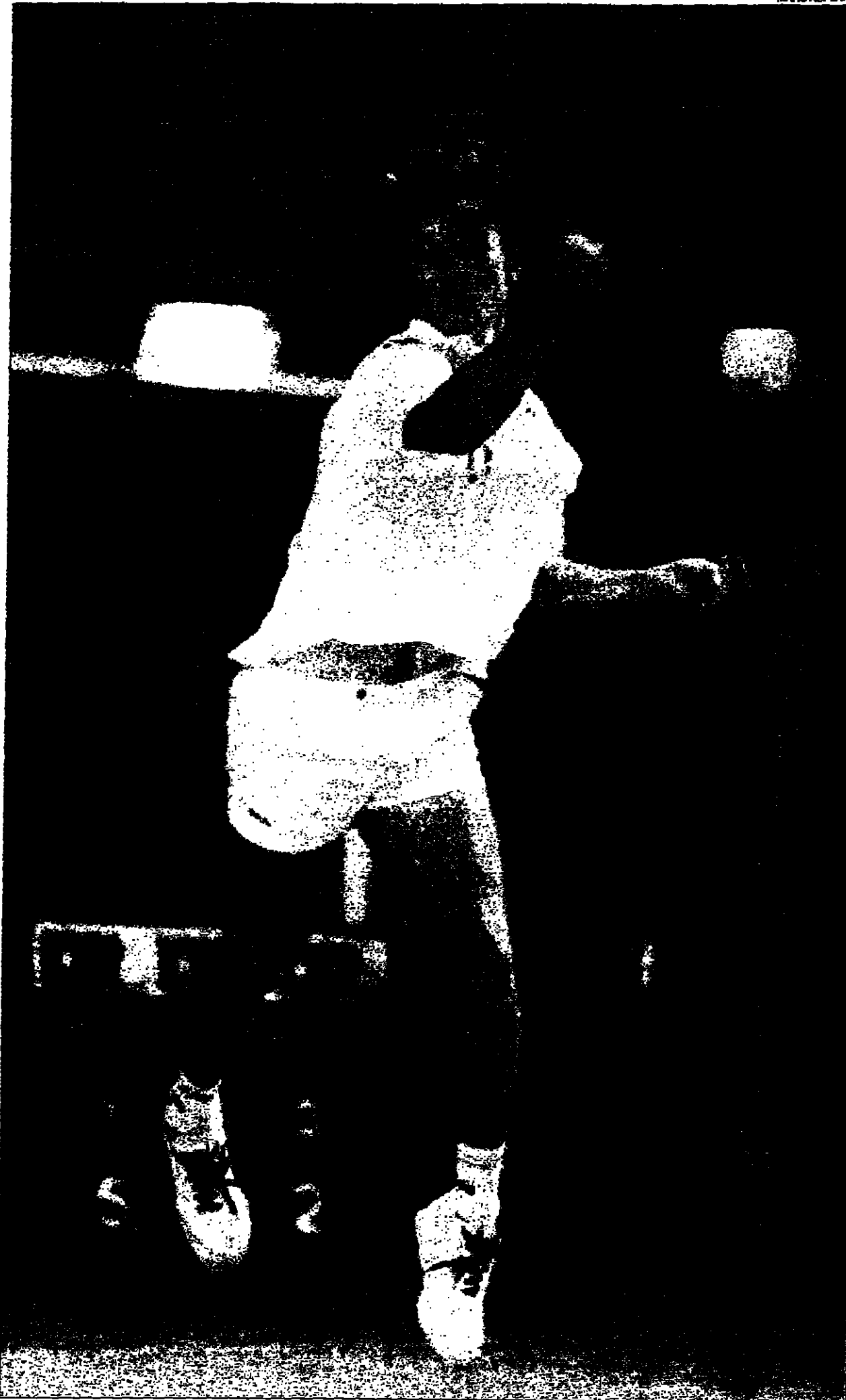
The first set was tight and had the Hampshire boy managed to win it, he might have settled into the relentless rhythm that characterised his progress in Australia. But two careless volleys and a forcing backhand into the net cost him the tie-break and the second set was a long uphill struggle, decided more by experience than skill. Baily had the strokes, but Eriksson had the patience. An early lesson learnt.

"I should have been more daring, but I had my chances," Baily said. "The difference between this level and the juniors is not so much that they hit the ball so much harder but that they make fewer mistakes." Was he weighed down by all the attention? "People can expect what they like. I have been surprised by the amount of attention, but I'd rather look to the future," he said.

Stephen Shaw, the coach who rescued Baily from the well-piled scrapheap of talented British juniors, thought defeat was purely a matter of experience. "It brought him down to earth in real terms, certainly," he said. "I didn't try to do that myself because you want to take advantage of a good result like Australia for as long as possible."

One of the benefits of Baily's unexpected triumph is the target it has set for other British juniors. "They will get jealous that all the media are wanting to see Baily and no one else. That will give them a kick," as one coach put it. Or, in the more measured words of Ian Peacock, the chief executive of the Lawn Tennis Association: "Everyone can walk a little taller for his achievement. The tension will come when the grass-court season comes, but James will have had three or four months to acclimatise by then."

This morning, Baily has a meeting with a management group that wants to represent him. He is also renegotiating his clothing contract with Mizuno. One defeat does not provoke a recession. In a country desperate for success, Baily's stock rightly remains high. It is not yet time to bring back the downs.



Leaps and bounds: Baily launches into the ball yesterday during his first professional match

SNOOKER

James leaves troubles behind

STEVE James, who added to his list of mishaps when his car collided with a deer while he was driving near his Cannock home on Monday, reached the quarter-finals of the Benson and Hedges Masters at Wembley Conference Centre with the minimum of alarms yesterday.

James, the world No. 10, showed a marked improvement on recent form as he beat Terry Griffiths 5-0 in the second round. It was not the first time James had managed to produce his best shortly after being in an accident.

A few days before his debut in the world championship five years ago, when he reached the quarter-finals, he turned his car over at high speed. And, that year, he beat Stephen Hendry after falling into a lake, fully clothed, earlier that day.

Against Griffiths, however,

he committed no blunders in a one-sided match, with the exception of the first frame, which lasted for only 69 minutes. Griffiths, an ever-present at the Masters since 1980, looked certain to win the opening frame until, leading 49-23, he missed an

elementary brown from short range. James cleared the colours to the pink and later potted the black from distance.

The remainder of the contest consisted of a succession of breaks from James, who grew visibly more confident as the match progressed. Runs of 58, 49, 74 and 60 gave James the next four frames, while, in contrast, Griffiths scored a mere 15 points.

Griffiths, who on his last tournament appearance — in last month's Regal Welsh Open — was also beaten 5-0, said: "I gave him half-chances and he took advantage of every single one of them. He played exceptionally well."

James meets Jimmy White, the bookmakers' favourite for the £10,000 first prize, or Willie Thorne in the quarter-finals tomorrow.

RESULT: Second round: S. James (Eng) bt T. Griffiths (Wales), 5-0

James: no mistakes

James: no mistakes

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FOOTBALL

French stake Cantona claim

ERIC Cantona will miss Manchester United's FA Cup fifth-round visit to Sheffield United on Sunday after France claimed first refusal on his services yesterday.

In a similar situation to that involving Tottenham Hotspur and their Scottish international forward, Gordon Durie, France have declared their intent to take part in their preparations for the World Cup qualifying tie in Israel next Wednesday and, under rules set out by Fifa, the game's world governing body, they are not allowing Cantona to play in the cup-tie at Bramall Lane.

Durie became involved in a club-versus-country argument earlier this week because Scotland have priority call on his services while preparing for their World Cup qualifying match with Malta in Glasgow. With the Frenchman thus

unavailable, United will have to make their first change in five games. Ryan Giggs probably partnering Mark Hughes up front.

Winding-up proceedings against Brighton and Hove Albion FC were further adjourned in the High Court yesterday so that the club can continue with refinancing in the hope of satisfying its creditors. The case, delayed from last December, was again put off until after Easter, at the request of the club counsel, Mark Hubbard.

The adjournment was not opposed by the Inland Revenue, which brought the winding-up petition on a claim for more than £400,000 and is supported by another creditor, Modern Contractors (Sussex) Ltd. At the first Companies Court hearing in December, Mr Registrar Buckley was told that the refinancing of Bright-

on — said to have total debts of almost £3 million — hinged on a pending planning decision.

San Marino were last night advised to enjoy their visit to Wembley next week while they still can. In future, they may have to pre-qualify to join larger European countries such as England in the main qualifying draws for international tournaments.

Fifa's general secretary, Sepp Blatter, said yesterday: "The only solution to the increasing number of countries in Europe is to restrict the number of international games now that Europe is crumbling further all the time."

Membership of Uefa, European football's governing organisation, has swelled to 46 countries since the break-up of the former Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

SPORT IN BRIEF

China protests over drugs allegations

CHINA is to make an official protest to Fina, swimming's international governing body, over suggestions from Sweden that its competitors have been taking performance-enhancing drugs (Craig Lord writes). The move was provoked by a press release signed by Per-Axel Eriksson, the president of the Swedish swimming federation, which referred to suspicions of drug abuse among Chinese swimmers and a lack of support for testing in China.

The comments follow similar claims made by Hans Chrastak, the Swedish national team manager, last month. Chrastak said of China's women: "They show all the signs of steroid use: muscle, complexion and they're very heavy. They have the same voices as the East Germans had and they're swimming very well. One just has to look at a normal Chinese girl and you know that these girls have been taking anabolic steroids." Chrastak proposed a boycott in which all countries would refuse to compete against China.

Zhang Xiong, team leader and coach to China, said the Chinese Swimming Association "has been strongly opposed to doping practices in swimming and has always supported the Fina rules concerning this point." He added that his swimmers had been tested at all national competitions, had never refused tests, including random ones, and were ready to be monitored at all international events. He expressed surprise at Sweden's "statements raising the unacceptable suspicions on our swimmers as well as some specific accusations on unproved facts". China's State Sports Commission has asked Sweden to clarify its position.

Woosnam thwarted

GOLF: Ian Woosnam will not have the chance to go for a fourth successive Monte Carlo Open title this year. The event, due to be staged from June 30 to July 3, with prize-money of £554,000, has been called off. However, there will not be a blank week on the European Tour a fortnight before the Open Championship. The Carrolls Irish Open at Mount Juliet, County Kilkenny, is moving from June 10-13 to July 1-4. It will carry prize-money of £580,000, some £110,000 more than when Nick Faldo won last year.

Olazábal defends title

GOLF: José María Olazábal, right, competes in his first PGA European Tour event of the year today, when he defends his title at the Tenerife Open at the Golf del Sur course. Barry Lane, who is top of the Ryder Cup table, hopes to extend his points advantage in the absence of his nearest challengers, Nick Faldo, Colin Montgomerie, Sandy Lyle and Bernhard Langer from the Tenerife tournament.



Norway's golden seam

SKIING: Kjetil Andre Aamodt won the men's giant slalom at the Alpine world championships in Morioka, Japan, yesterday to give Norway a second gold medal from the two men's events completed; Carole Merle, of France, won the women's giant slalom. Alberto Tomba's chances of leaving Japan without competing diminished when the Italian team said that if the slalom was brought forward from Sunday to today — which could happen if the downhill is called off because of high winds — it would consider going home.

Smithies leads women

CRICKET: Karen Smithies, the all-rounder who led East Midlands to three county titles in four years, has been appointed captain of the England team for the World Cup in England from July 20 to August 1. Smithies captained England on a short tour to Ireland in 1991 and was also in the 1988 World Cup squad that lost in the final to Australia, winners for the third time. Australia, Ireland, India, Holland, the Caribbean Federation, New Zealand and Denmark are the other countries in the competition.

McClellan stays on

RUGBY LEAGUE: Mike McClellan, who has built a side capable of challenging Wigan's monopoly, has been persuaded by St Helens supporters not to return to New Zealand at the end of the season. "Their feelings did influence me," McClellan said yesterday after agreeing a new 12-month coaching contract. St Helens, who last won the league title 18 years ago, lead the championship by four points and meet Wigan on Saturday in the second round of the Challenge Cup.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm)	Conditions	Runs to resort	Weather	Temp °C	Last snow
AUSTRIA						
Saalfeld	30 80	good	slippery	sunny	2	28/1
Schladming	10 100	good	open	sunny	5	28/1
Seefeld	25 80	good	open	sunny	3	28/1
St Anton	25 330	good	open	sunny	5	28/1
FRANCE						
Chamonix	25 315	good	thin	sunny	3	27/1
Les Deux Alpes	30 220	good	closed	overcast	5	9/2
Megève	5 120	good	closed	sunny	9	27/1
Meribel	15 170	good	open	sunny	3	28/1
Tignes	130 360	good	open	sunny	3	28/1
ITALY						
Madama	25 180	mixed	icy	sunny	10	27/1
Saas d'Oul	25 50	good	open	sunny	0	9/2
SWITZERLAND						
Adelboden	2 70	hard-packed	only one run	sunny	4	28/1
C Montana	8 205	good	thin	sunny	3	28/1
St Moritz	40 70	hard	open	sunny	2	28/1
Verbier	3 250	good	difficult	sunny	3	28/1

Information supplied by Ski Hotline

Leading athletes right to demand slice of the cake

WHEN the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) decided to hold the world championships every two years instead of four, the consensus was that this was purely for financial gain.

So one can hardly blame athletes for wanting some of the action and a slice of the \$91 million fee for television rights at Stuttgart in August.

At the highest level, the sport has changed dramatically over the past few years, in order to compete with the best, a professional approach is essential both on and off the track. The days of the part-time athlete are over. Sympathetic employers are hard to

find; university degrees are put on hold, and generous benefactors are cutting back due to the recession — yet the athlete is expected to reach ever higher standards.

But the majority of international athletes cannot make a decent living despite dedicating most of their time and effort to the sport.

I believe that there has to be a tiered system of payment if the sport is to develop properly. The superstars and crowd-pullers should always be paid handsomely since market forces will always prevail — but the supporting cast should not be neglected.

The burning issue is whether the IAAF should award

Roger Black argues that the cast should be heard and rewarded as professionalism takes over



Black: prize-money

Black: prize-money

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prize-money at the world championships. A handful of leading American athletes have threatened to boycott the championships if no money is up for grabs, claiming that without them the championships will be lessened. To be effective, a boycott will have to include the majority of the big names from all countries, who would have to be prepared to face the wrath of their governing bodies.

I find it difficult to believe that all would support a boycott. For many, taking part is what matters and money does not enter the equation. So the argument is really between the big earners and the sport.

If the IAAF is hoarding this revenue, then there is a principle at stake and the athletes must act. I am led to believe that the IAAF plans to pass on the money to the national federations, which in turn will

spend it on development of athletics. This sounds fine so long as the athletes can trust their federations to spend the money wisely and fairly.

If prize-money is made available, how should it be distributed? To medal winners in each event? To the top eight? Should women receive the same as men? Is a 100 metres gold medal worth more than a 50-kilometre race walking medal? The list of questions is endless. Market forces may be fair on the grand prix circuit of appearance fees, but could the IAAF really bring them into play at its world championships, the showpiece for the sport?

I hope that strike action is not necessary. Professionalism is here to stay at the highest level. The IAAF and national governing bodies should welcome this, listen to the athletes and their agents, adapt a more professional approach themselves and provide all international athletes with the means of making some sort of a living from the sport.

On a more positive note, I am pleased that the IAAF will begin to use blood testing at selected meetings this season. This will make certain athletes think twice before using drugs. It will be interesting to see which countries take up this opportunity to clean up athletics once and for all.

مكتبة من الأصل

LITTLEWOODS POOLS
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22 Pts £1,674.25
21 Pts £1,674.25

FOR COUPONS PHONE FREE 0800 600 000 - 24 HRS

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (74607)
7.00 Breakfast News (63418633)
8.05 News at Ten. Robert Kilroy-Gibbs hosts a topical discussion (s) (955555)
9.05 News at Ten. Game show (s) (6488324)
10.00 News. Regional news and weather (9033492) 10.05 Playdays. For the very young (s) (6877352)
10.30 Good Morning... with Anne and Nick. Anne Diamond and Nick Owen present fashion with Claire Roberts, a television preview by Jimmy Greaves and medical advice from Dr Mark Porter including at 11.00 and 12.00 News and weather (s) (10074701)
12.15 Pebble Mill presented by Jock Stiles (s) (10074701)
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Hayton (Ceelax) Weather (46188)
1.30 News at Ten. Don Maclean presents another round of the high-tech word game (s) (87061072)
2.15 Snooker. Doug Denny introduces the first quarter-final of the Benson and Hedges Masters (648091)
3.50 Children's BBC. Rupert. Cartoon adventures (s) (3471782) 3.55 Melvin and Maureen's Musical. A musical series exploring the role of an orchestra (s) (8897546) 4.10 Jackanory. Louise Lombard reads the first part of The Queen's Nose (1164492) 4.25 The New Topper. A cartoon (s) (6554898) 4.30 Marmalade and Her Merry Men. The final part of a story (s) (3247430) 4.35 News at Ten. Regional news and weather (s) (8088091)
5.35 Neighbours. (Ceelax) (s) (589140) Northern Ireland: Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Laura Mayer (Ceelax) Weather (140)
6.30 Regional news magazines (492). Northern Ireland: Neighbours (s) (Ceelax) (s)
7.00 Top of the Pops. Tony Dorte hosts the chart show (s) (4966)
7.30 EastEnders. A musical (s) (5007430) (s) (5007430) (s) (5007430)
8.00 Wildlife on One. A documentary film by Victoria Stowe and Mark Deeble of giant octopuses hunting, fighting and caring for their young in the north Pacific. Narrated by David Attenborough (s) (Ceelax) (s) (3614)
8.30 The British Comedy. The Start of Dreams. The final episode of the comedy series starring Chris Barrie as the obnoxious manager of a leisure centre. Helen Mirren is about to give birth, but does not want Gordon to drive her to the hospital (Ceelax) (s) (2121)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Maryn Lewis. (Ceelax) Regional news and weather (7275)
9.30 Chilli Subject to Contract. Peter Tilbury's patchy comedy about the faraway chief of a smart country restaurant. Gareth (Lenny Henry) decides to promote Le Chateau Anglais in the local press in order to sell his cottage. (Ceelax) (s) (33053)

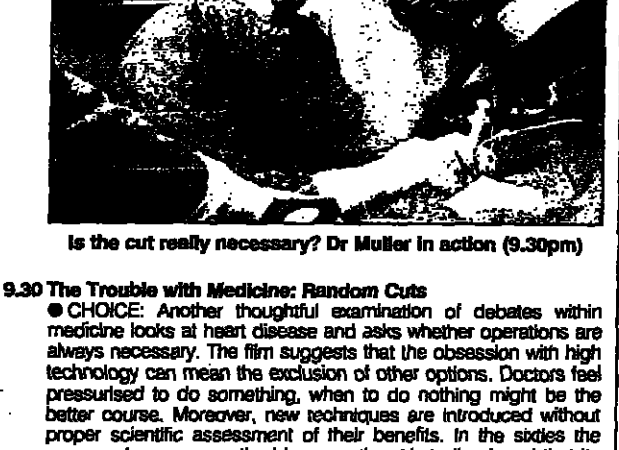


Facing the questions: minister Douglas Hogg (10.00pm)

10.00 Question Time. Peter Sissons chairs a political debate in Bristol. The panel comprises Douglas Hogg, foreign office minister; Dawn Primarolo, Labour health spokesperson; Hilary Williams, chief executive of the Girl Guides' Association; and Don Foster, Liberal Democrat education and training spokesman (5549). Northern Ireland: Spotlight (83322)
11.00 Snooker. Highlights of the second quarter-final in the Benson and Hedges Masters (45411). Northern Ireland: 11.30 Sports, Stills and News. The Acoustic Concert (83324)
11.50 Weather (105330). Ends at 11.55. Northern Ireland: 12.30am-1.20 Snooker. The Masters (4988909)
2.15-2.45 BBC Select: Executive Business Club (71183); 3.00-4.00 RCM Nursing Update (54541)

BBC2

8.00 Breakfast News (5491256) 8.15 Westminster (2720508)
9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes (16030121)
2.00 News and weather followed by You and Me (5176141)
2.15 Advice Shop. Welfare rights magazine (1583594)
3.00 News and weather (122956) followed by Westminster Live. Including prime minister's questions (780458) 3.30 News and weather. (Ceelax) Regional news and weather (9064591)
4.00 Snooker. The conclusion of the first quarter-final match in the Benson & Hedges Masters (4343)
6.00 Film: Return of the Bad Men (1948, b/w). Routing western starring Randolph Scott as a marshal in the Oklahoma territory, who comes up against outlaws Billy the Kid, the Dalton gang and the Sundance Kid. With Robert Ryan and George Hayes. Directed by Ray Enright (22188). Wales. Japanese Language and People (782). 6.30 Off the Back of a Lorry (352). 7.00 Advice Shop (2508)
7.30 First Sight. London's Taxi War. Is the commercial rivalry between black cabs and unlicensed minicabs putting the customer at risk? Fiona Oates reports (546). Northern Ireland: First Sight. Wales. Dad's Army. East: Matter of Fact. Midlands: Midlands Report. North, North-east, North-west, South-west, West: Close Up North. South: Southern Eye
8.00 The Essential History of Europe: Belgium. CHOICE: In trying to turn up Belgium in half an hour the programme makes a lot of mistakes. The country was only invented in 1830, so there was no need to use up valuable time trying to summarise centuries of history. Then when Belgium did finally get started its history was mainly bourgeois and dull. Until, that is, the Nazis arrived, conquering the country in 18 days. To the traditional Flemish-Walloon division was added a new one: collaboration versus resistance. Belgium, it is argued, is a country but not a nation. In a jolly English border-style way, Belgians are invited to sing their national anthem. More can be made of this popular but revealing item has been typical of a dithering series which has often attempted the impossible but done its best to say something useful in an accessible way (s) (1256)
8.30 Notes and Queries with Glyn Anderson. The banister and broadcaster ponder some tricky questions with the help of scribes and record producer George "Shadow" Morton and the magician Geoffrey Durham (s) (3091)
9.00 Joking Apart. The conclusion of Steven Moffat's comedy series about a writer and his estranged wife. Starring Robert Bathurst and Fiona Gillies (s) (5817)



On the war path: Christopher Ellison as Burnside (8.00pm)

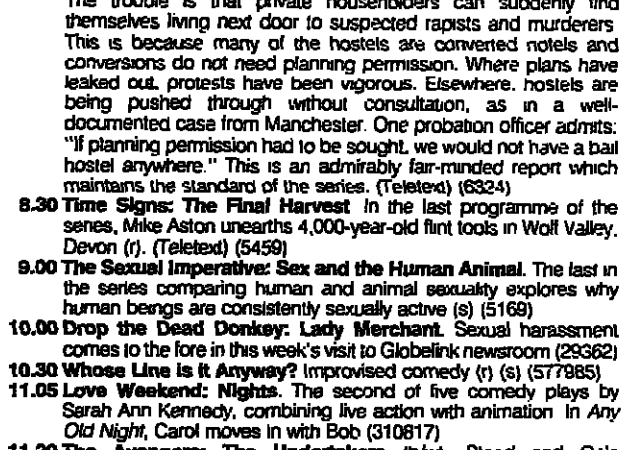
8.00 The Bill: Faggins. Burnside (Christopher Ellison) goes on the offensive against Sun Hill's burglars. (Teletext) (8782)
8.30 Minder: Gone With the Winchester. Arthur Daley (George Cole) falls out with Big Dave and sets up a rival establishment to the Winchester Club. With Gary Webster as his streetwise sidekick. (Teletext) (98169)
9.30 Dave Allen. The Irish comedian delivers his inimitable brand of humour (s) (2121)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. Weather (84992) 10.30 London Tonight (600184)
10.40 Big City. Carolyn Marshall and Gordon Kennedy present a guide to leisure and entertainment in London (s) (575527)
11.15 Film: Rio Conchos (1964). An action-packed western set in post-civil war Texas. Richard Boone leads an expedition to prevent stolen rifles from falling into the hands of marauding Indians. With Stuart Whitman and Tony Franciosa. Directed by Gordon Douglas (908695)
1.15 The Twilight Zone: The Little People of Killary Woods. A tale of the unexpected (6128812)
1.30 Hollywood Report. A British view of Tinseltown (73560)
2.00 America's Top Ten. Chart sounds (57525)
2.30 Donatista. Phil Donatista finds out what happens to strippers when they get old (48066)
3.30 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Murder Party. A man decides to expose his wife and friends. With David McCullum (s) (58812)
4.00 Entertainment UK (s) (89725)
4.00 Riviera. French soap about an aristocratic family (53116)
5.30 ITN Morning News (24657). Ends at 6.00

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV. News, travel, weather and regular features, including Holiday Snaps and Sporting Chance, with Top of the Morning at 8.50 presented by Lorraine Kelly (8493492)
9.25 Runway. The daily quiz show with Richard Madeley (9578701) 9.55 London Today (655782)
10.00 The Time... The Place... Topical discussion (9153140)
10.35 This Morning. Today's programme features Una Stubbs with tips on dressing and family health with Dr Chris Steele, including at 10.55 ITN News headlines and 11.55 London Today (5622372)
12.10 Riddlers on the Road. Early-learning series (945017)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News with Nicholas Owen and Sonia Ruseler. (Teletext). Weather (1007256) 1.05 London Today (80510072)
1.15 Home and Away. (Teletext) (96879)
1.45 A Country Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (588550)
2.15 TV Weekly. Anne Diamond presents television news and gossip, and Barry Took selects his favourite clips from the archives (90458)
2.45 Take the High Road. Drama serial set in the Highlands (2039782)
3.10 ITN News headlines (7130372) 3.15 London Today and weather (7132343)
3.20 Blockbusters. Teenage quiz, hosted by Bob Holness (s) (5005324)
3.50 Children's ITV: Where's Wally? Cartoon adventures (6100053)
4.20 Mike and Angelo. American comedy-drama series about a family alien (s) (3224492) 4.45 Scooby-Doo. Animation (3237653)
5.10 Home and Away. (Teletext) (96879)
5.40 ITN Early Evening News with Carol Barnes. Weather (120548)
6.00 London Tonight. (Teletext) (56904)
7.00 Storyline. In 1953, Derek Bentley was hanged for his part in the shooting of a policeman. This documentary investigation explores the reasons why Bentley has not been granted a posthumous pardon (s) (512)

CHANNEL 4

5.50 Sesame Street (s) (5581343) 6.45 Split and Hercules (9455257)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (23411)
9.00 You Bet Your Life. Comedy quiz show with Bill Cosby (15169)
9.30 Schools. (601898)
12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Anne Perkins (28633)
12.30 Sesame Street. Today's guest is Smokey Robinson (55053)
1.30 Lift Off. The children turn a warehouse into a theatre (s) (45598)



Starting anew: Nelson Eddy, Jeanette MacDonald (2.00pm)

2.00 Film: New Moon (1940, b/w). Stirring romantic musical about a plantation owner and a French nobleman embarking on a new life in Louisiana. Starring Jeanette MacDonald and Nelson Eddy. Directed by Robert Z. Leonard (128527)
3.55 Food File. How diet can alleviate migraine (s). (Teletext) (s) (6675188)
4.30 Countdown. The words and numbers quiz. (Teletext) (s) (355)
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah talks to a couple who sloped in 1977, were tormented by their parents, but finally married on February 14 last year. (Teletext) (s) (8339655)
5.50 The Magic Roundabout with Zebibee and the gang (s) (455545)
6.00 The Word - Access All Areas. Dani Behr talks to Michele Ayala. Harty in EastEnders, and selects highlights from last Friday's show (s) (550) 6.50 Gamesmaster. Computer games show (430)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow. (Teletext) Weather (210350)
7.50 Comment (151237)
8.00 Close to Home. CHOICE: Bail hostels are intended to provide a cheaper and more humane alternative to prison for defendants on remand. So far there are 83 hostels in England and Wales, providing 2,000 places. The trouble is that private householders can suddenly find themselves living next door to suspected rapists and murderers. This is because many of the hostels are converted hotels and conversions do not need planning permission. Where plans have leaked out, protests have been vigorous. Elsewhere, hostels are being pushed through without consultation, as in a well-documented case from Manchester. One probation officer admits: "If planning permission had to be sought, we would not have a bail hostel anywhere." This is an admirably far-minded report which maintains the standard of the series. (Teletext) (8324)
8.30 Time Signs: The Final Harvest. In the last programme of the series, Mike Aston uncovers 4,000-year-old flint tools in Wolf Valley, Devon (s). (Teletext) (5459)
9.00 The Sexual Imperative: Sex and the Human Animal. The last in the series comparing human and animal sexuality explores why human beings are consistently sexually active (s) (5169)
10.00 Drop the Dead Donkey: Lady Merchant. Sexual harassment comes to the fore in this week's visit to Globalink newroom (2362)
10.30 Whose Line is it Anyway? Improvised comedy (s) (577985)
11.05 Love Weekend: Nights. The second of five comedy plays by Sarah Ann Kennedy, combining live action with animation in Any Old Night. Carol moves in with Bob (10167)
11.20 The Avengers: The Undertakers (b/w). Steed and Gale investigate blackmail and murder at an old people's home. With Patrick Macnee and Honor Blackman (s) (472701)
12.25am Dispatches. Child prostitution in Thailand (s) (3779831)
1.15 The Dick Powell Theatre: Seeds of April (b/w). An unfaithful husband plots to murder his wife (s) (4297034). Ends at 2.10

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 3.30pm-3.50 The Young Doctors (500334) 3.50-4.00 News at Ten (9033492) 4.00-4.10 Home and Away (9033492) 4.10-4.20 News at Ten (9033492) 4.20-4.30 The Goodies (9033492) 4.30-4.40 News at Ten (9033492) 4.40-4.50 The Goodies (9033492) 4.50-5.00 News at Ten (9033492) 5.00-5.10 The Goodies (9033492) 5.10-5.20 News at Ten (9033492) 5.20-5.30 The Goodies (9033492) 5.30-5.40 News at Ten (9033492) 5.40-5.50 The Goodies (9033492) 5.50-6.00 News at Ten (9033492) 6.00-6.10 The Goodies (9033492) 6.10-6.20 News at Ten (9033492) 6.20-6.30 The Goodies (9033492) 6.30-6.40 News at Ten (9033492) 6.40-6.50 The Goodies (9033492) 6.50-7.00 News at Ten (9033492) 7.00-7.10 The Goodies (9033492) 7.10-7.20 News at Ten (9033492) 7.20-7.30 The Goodies (9033492) 7.30-7.40 News at Ten (9033492) 7.40-7.50 The Goodies (9033492) 7.50-8.00 News at Ten (9033492) 8.00-8.10 The Goodies (9033492) 8.10-8.20 News at Ten (9033492) 8.20-8.30 The Goodies (9033492) 8.30-8.40 News at Ten (9033492) 8.40-8.50 The 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Fairbrother retains place in squad for second Test against India

England discard Atherton

FROM PETER BALL
IN MADRAS

MICHAEL Atherton, the opening batsman who missed the first Test match against India because of a viral illness, was yesterday left out of the England 12 for the second Test, which starts here today. Atherton's omission means that his Lancashire colleague, Neil Fairbrother, retains his place, while Alec Stewart will keep wicket and probably open the batting with Graham Gooch.

England, one down in the three-match series after the defeat in Calcutta last week, have little margin for error and the selection committee meeting yesterday evening lasted more than an hour. "There was a fair discussion on all aspects of the team make-up," Bob Bennett, the England tour manager, said.

One hopes and assumes so. With Stewart suffering from a swollen finger and less than 100 per cent fit, some thought should also have been given to playing Blakey as wicket-keeper. Of the XI that played in the first Test, Taylor has been dropped and Tufnell and DeFreitas brought in.

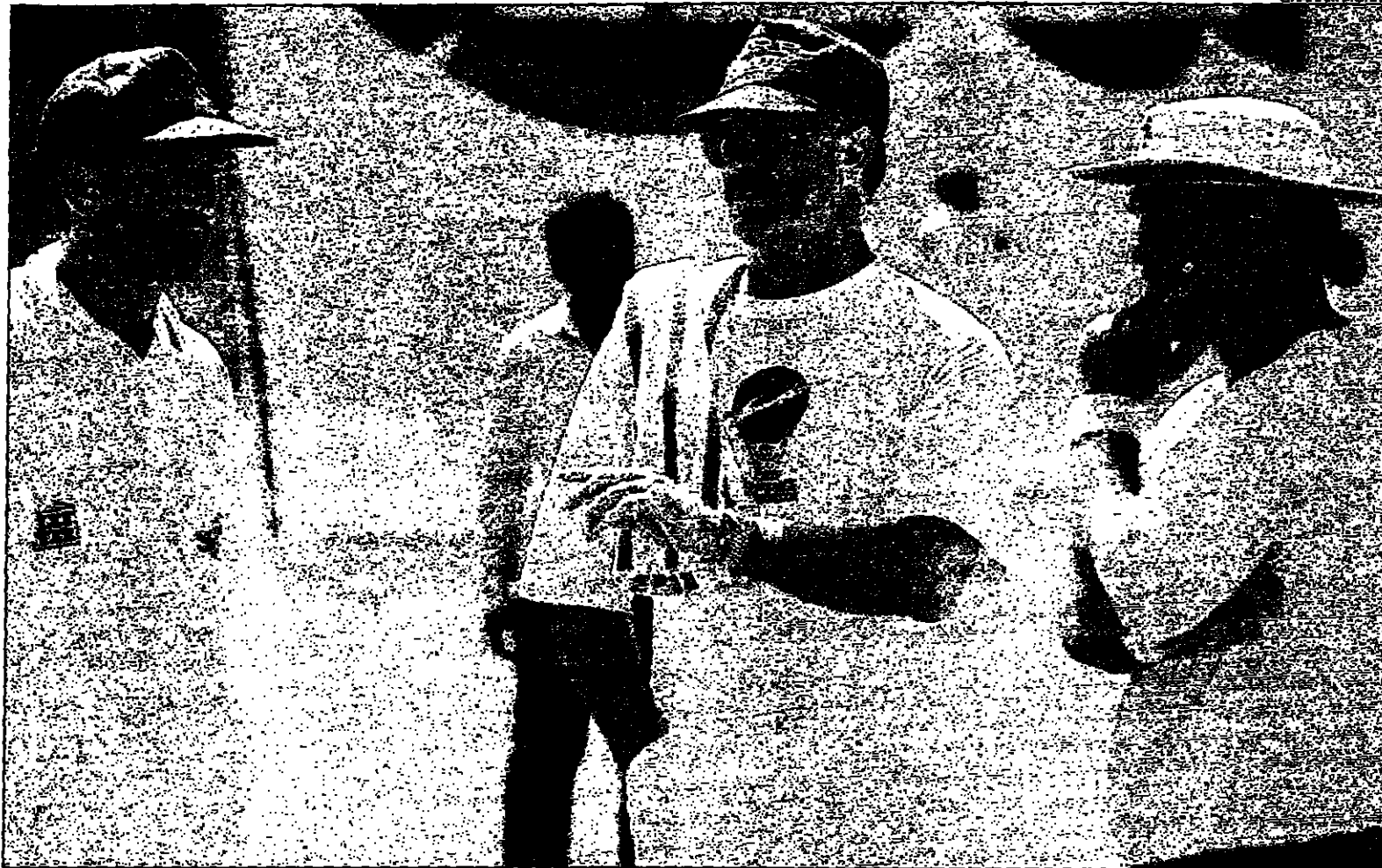
But that pales beside the omission of Atherton. It is not without argument in favour. Fairbrother's gritty performance in the first Test, in which he made 17 and 25, deservedly had its admirers, and Atherton's most recent form, in the match against Rest of India at Vishakhapatnam last weekend, was poor even by his standards.

It could hardly have been otherwise, given his lack of cricket. After a month of virtual inactivity during the one-day matches, Atherton had begun, slowly, to bat himself back into form against the Indian under-25 team at Cuttack, the only match before the first Test.

The rust dropped off him as he went on in the second innings of that match and he was picked for the first Test, only to drop out through illness. It looked a good game to miss, with few of England's front-line batsmen emerging with credit in the first innings, but apparently Atherton's failure to make it has led to him being left out.

He batted a long time against the Rest of India without showing real signs of getting himself into form, while Fairbrother took the opportunity to play his best innings of the tour.

But that is little evidence, and it seems arbitrary in the extreme to leave out a recognised opener when the alternatives are Stewart, who is also expected to keep wicket with his damaged hand, or a non-specialist such as Robin Smith. Stewart was bowled



Words of wisdom: Lillee, centre, the former Australian fast bowler, offers advice to Gooch, left, and Gattings in Madras yesterday

first ball in the first innings of the first Test after keeping wicket for a day and a half. To omit Atherton, a good player of spin with a Test average of 34, in favour of two batsmen with averages of 17 and 10, compounds the offence and leaves Smith, Graeme Hick and Fairbrother with a great deal to prove.

To bowl out India twice on a pitch that Keith Fletcher, the England manager, expects to last, will require more penetration than England have shown so far on the tour. The temperature in the Chepauk stadium, which has been approaching 90°F over the past two days, with high humidity to boot, will not help.

In the past two days, both teams have had Dennis Lillee helping out at nets. The Australian, 43, once holder of the world Test record of 355 wickets, assists in the running of an academy for young fast bowlers in Madras yesterday, he spent an hour bowling at and coaching the England players. Nine years after retiring from the Test arena, he has retained his high, classical action and, even at much reduced pace, made the ball swing sharply in the nets.

England will need to learn if they are to gain a chance of winning the series. The signs that Tufnell is at last beginning to find his form will offer

some encouragement, especially if Fletcher's reading of the pitch proves correct. "It looks a good cricket pitch," he said yesterday.

"It might turn on the fourth and fifth days, so thankfully our spinners are starting to bowl a bit better."

Even more important, per-

TEAMS

INDIA (from): M Prabhakar, N S Sidhu, V G Kamath, S R Tendulkar, M Azharuddin (captain), P K Amre, Kapil Dev, K S More, A R Kumble, R Chauhan, S V Raju, J Srinath.

ENGLAND (from): G A Gooch (captain), A J Stewart, M W Gatting, P Smith, G A Hick, N H Fairbrother, G C Lewis, D K Salisbury, P A J DeFreitas, P W Jarvis, D E Morkum, P C Tufnell.

happ, will be the ability of the England batsmen to learn from their mistakes of the first Test and cope with the Indian spinners more convincingly than they did in Calcutta, where the game was virtually lost on Saturday afternoon as they collapsed abjectly.

There was one exception. Mike Gatting has had few problems with spin and will be expected to produce something special on his return to the ground where he scored 207 during the 1984-5 tour, a record for an England player on the subcontinent.

Gooch, the England cap-

tain, scored even more heavily during the last Test series between the countries, when India toured England in 1990, and he will be eager to reassert the mastery he displayed in scoring 752 runs in that three-match series. He has consistently refused to make illness an excuse, but there was little doubt that he was below par in the first Test. His return to form and fitness would give England much-needed depth.

On the other hand the Indian team, demoralised and in disarray on its return from South Africa last month, has found a new conviction since their success in Calcutta. They are expected to choose between the left-arm spinner, Venkat Raju, and the pace bowler, Jagavallu Srinath, a product of Lillee's school. If Raju plays, India will be unchanged.

Much, as in the first Test, depends on the toss. The pitch is expected to have a bit of pace on the first two days, which will give the England bowlers some cause for optimism. They are convinced that apart from Azharuddin and Tendulkar, the early Indian batting is vulnerable to pace. But that was the thinking in the first Test too.

Alderman's case, page 36
Boiling turns match, page 36



Past master: at 43, Lillee still shows a classic action

Crews reject opportunity to plot safer course home

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL
IN HOBART

Blyth: plan vetoed

PEOPLE power has prevailed in the British Steel Challenge. A poll taken among the 140 crew members preparing for the start, on Saturday, of the third stage of this yacht race around the world, showed an overwhelming majority in favour of sticking to the tough course originally charted, across the Southern Ocean to Cape Town via the Kerguelen islands.

Concerned by the damage sustained by half the fleet around Cape Horn, during the second stage of the race from Rio to Hobart, Chay Blyth and his race committee decided to reroute the fleet around Amsterdam Island.

well north of the icebergs and strong winds, but by doing so caused an outcry. Blyth has now told the skipper, that the alternative course, 450 miles to the north, is off the agenda. "When we took up this challenge, most of us knew what to expect," Adrian Rayson, one of the crew of Heath Insured, said. "We don't want people watering this challenge down or moving the goalposts just because of a few difficulties."

A planned change of mainsails at this midway stage of the race has also been discarded. "The original sails remain in remarkably good condition and the skippers have agreed to retain them," Andrew Roberts, the race technical director, confirmed. Even

British Steel II, dismasted during the second stage, has had what her crew managed to salvage patched up rather than replaced.

This decision, too, has been welcomed by the vast majority who began this race believing that they had to make their sails last the entire 27,000 miles.

The new mainsails are to be kept in their bags and shipped to Cape Town as possible replacements for the last stage, back to Southampton. But the ten crews have been issued with new staysails. "These have taken quite a battering and this change had been planned from the outset," Roberts said.

A report issued yesterday covering

the bottlescrew failures experienced aboard five of the yachts during the second stage, and which led directly to the dismasting of British Steel II, blames articulation problems and fatigue rather than a simple design fault. The problem has been resolved by fitting a stronger bottlescrew and forestry to each yacht and moving the genoa back-fitting away from the swivel joint.

Robbin Knox-Johnston and Peter Blake, in their catamaran, Enza New Zealand, are three days ahead of schedule in their attempt to sail round the world in 80 days. They have sighted the Brazilian coast, having covered 3,357 nautical miles at an average speed of 13.99 knots.

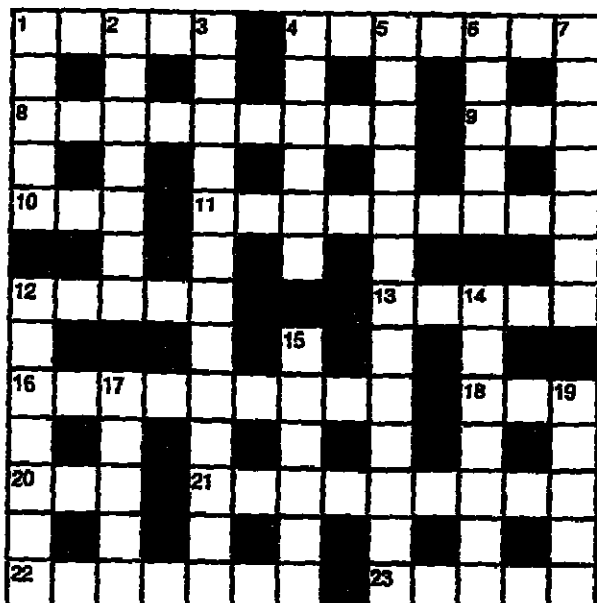
CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 3019

- ACROSS
1 Glamour photo (3,2)
4 Need (7)
9 Police officer (9)
10 Drinking counter (3)
11 No more (3)
12 Infamy (9)
13 Paper adhesive (5)
14 Shelter (5)
16 Military transport vessel (9)
18 Examine (3)
20 Chap (3)
21 Supposedly (9)
22 Spread out (7)
- DOWN
23 The Creation composer (5)
1 Hickory nut (5)
2 Confound (7)
3 Risk (3,2,8)
4 Refund (6)
5 Spoil chances (5,3,5)
6 Instill (5)
7 Near the beginning (5,2)
12 Kneecap (7)
14 Graphically (7)
15 Formed (6)
17 Command (5)
19 Test for fit (3,2)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3018

- ACROSS: 1 Launch 5 Pusher 8 Limb 9 Riffraff
10 Scroll 12 Crib 15 Queen Caroline 16 Slow
17 Thrive 19 Werewolf 21 Wink 22 Filmy 23 Letter
DOWN: 2 Agincourt 3 Nub 4 Hard luck 5 Puff 6 Straggle 7 Elf 11 Overwhelm 13 Innocence 14 Grateful 18 Cooey 20 Ed 21 Wet

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By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

Today's position is from the game Krasenkov - Sveshnikov, Moscow 1992. This game featured one of the most brilliant finishes of 1992. White has already given up a rook, but black appears to have the situation under control. White's next move shattered this illusion. What was it?

Solution page 36

By PHILIP HOWARD

- TRUMPA
a. The ace of spades
b. An adult male elephant
c. The sperm whale
METALIMNION
a. A door knocker
b. Lake water
c. A ring metal corselet

- FAVRILE
a. Feverish, excited
b. Pertaining to a favourite
c. A sort of glass
PELLIAN
a. Mountainous
b. Wearing furs
c. An indeterminate equation
Answers on page 36

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